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# Model MILITARY INTERNATIONAL

Issue 120 April 2016
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## 10th Anniversary Issue!

**TALES FROM THE CRYPT**

Tamiya's 1:35 Citroen Traction 11CV

## JAUNTY ARIETE

Trumpeter's 1:35 C1 Ariete upgraded

## AFRIKA KORPS TUNISIA 1942

FeR 1:24 Figure

**INSIDE:** 1:35 StuG III ■ GTK Boxer ■ 1:35 Sturmpanzer ■ 1:35 Tiger ■ Easy Eight Part Two ■ and more...

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# Newsline - April 2016

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Tel:01525 222573 Fax:01525 222574
Email:editor@modelmilitary.com

## NEW MINIART RELEASES

MiniArt has some interesting new releases in the pipeline:

T-44 SOVIET MEDIUM TANK
35193
1:35
MiniArt

**T-44 Soviet Medium Tank - 1:35 scale kit no. 35193**

This kit includes a detailed fighting compartment, engine compartment and interior turret detail, workable individual link tracks and markings for ten options. The kit will be made up from 659 plastic, 15 clear plastic and 94 photo-etched parts.

GERMAN TANK CREW (France 1940)
35191
1:35
MiniArt

**German Tank Crew (France 1940) – 1:35 scale kit no. 35191**

This set includes five early-war German tankers comprising a total of 38 plastic parts. These appear to be ideally posed for a Panzer III or Panzer IV.

FINNISH TANK CREW
35222
1:35
MiniArt

**Finnish Tank Crew. 1:35 scale kit no. 35222**

This forthcoming set offers five Finnish tank crew members in casual poses. With the wealth of potential Finnish armour subjects and a sad lacking of crew figures, these guys will be very welcome indeed.

ZIS-6 Family Wheels Set
35201
1:35
MiniArt

**ZIS-6 Family Wheels Set. 1:35 scale kit no. 35201**

Four paired wheels and four single wheels made up from 102 plastic parts.

Thanks to MiniArt for the information and images ***www.miniart-models.com***

## INSIDE THE ARMOUR PUBLICATIONS SCRATCH BUILDING MASTERCLASS

Inside the Armour Publications' has announced their second book release: 'Scratchbuilding Masterclass'. The book will be printed in February but ITAP is inviting readers to express interest in buying when it prints by emailing them at info@insidethearmour.com with the subject 'scratchbuilding pledge'. No money will be taken until the book is ready to ship.
Thanks to Inside the Armour Pubications for the information and image. Email: ***info@insidethearmour.com***

SCRATCHBUILDING MASTERCLASS
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PLA ZTZ-99A MBT
1/35 scale
PH-35018
PANDA
70

## PANDA 1:35 ZTZ-99A

The ZTZ-99 is a Chinese third generation main battle tank. The tank entered People's Liberation Army Ground Force service in 2001.

The ZTZ-99A is a vastly improved Type 99. Prototype testing commenced in August 2007 and the ZTZ-99A is believed to be the standard deployed variant today; upgradeable from Type 99. Its improved main gun may fire an Invar-type ATGM. It mounts next-generation ERA, new compound armour at the top, a new active protection system, and has a new, larger turret with "arrow shaped" armour. The larger turret may have improved armour and a commander's periscope, and the tank may have an integrated propulsion system

Both Bornco and HobbyBoss have already released 1:35 scale kits of this Chinese Main Battle Tank. Panda is the latest to join the busy market of ZTZ-99A models.

Thanks to Kitty Hawk Models for the information and images.

## THE ESSEX MODELLERS' SHOW

The Essex Modellers' Show is being jointly sponsored the IPMS-South East Essex, Hornchurch and Chelmsford branches and MAFVA, Essex Branch on Sunday, 24th. July 2016 between 10.00 a.m.and 16.00 p.m-setting up from 08.00 a.m.
Admission; Adults-£3-00, Child/Concession-£1-50 (Provisonal)
The venue is Hannakins Farm Community Centre, Rosebay Avenue, Billericay, Essex, CM12 0SZ
For Club and Trader enquiries, please contact respectively-
Jim Smith: 07787 381976 - ***wifflesnoop@yahoo.co.uk***
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All of the items fit securely in the elastic straps within the soft-sided zippered case, with the case having extra room to carry up to three airbrushes. An inner, zipper pouch is ideal for containing small replacement parts. It's perfect for artists in the studio and on the go.

This tool kit may be used in combination with the Iwata Airbrush Cleaning Kit, the Cleaning Kit Refill Pack and the Iwata Airbrush Cleaning Mat. Available online from The Airbrush Company Limited ***www.airbrushes.com***

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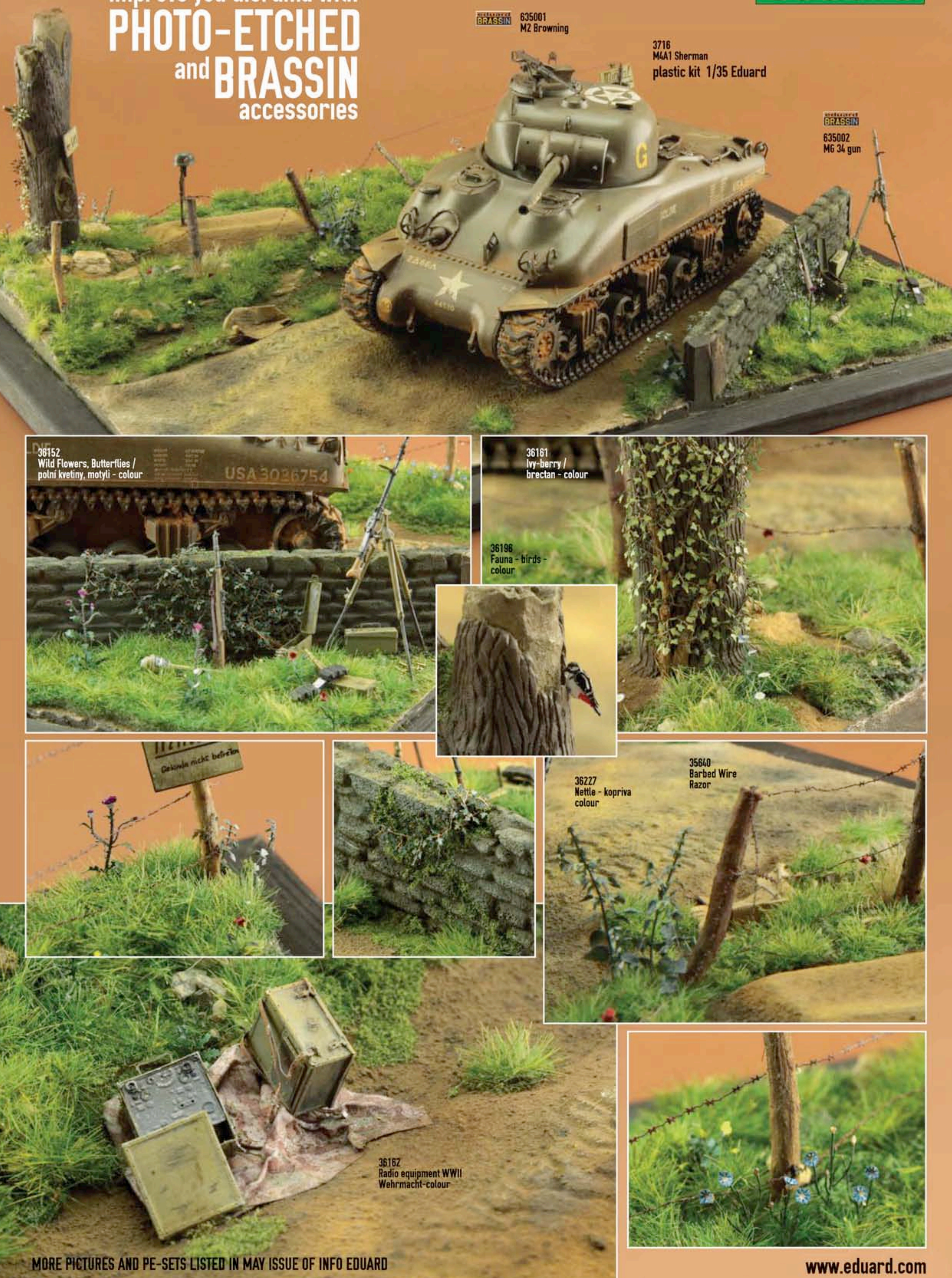
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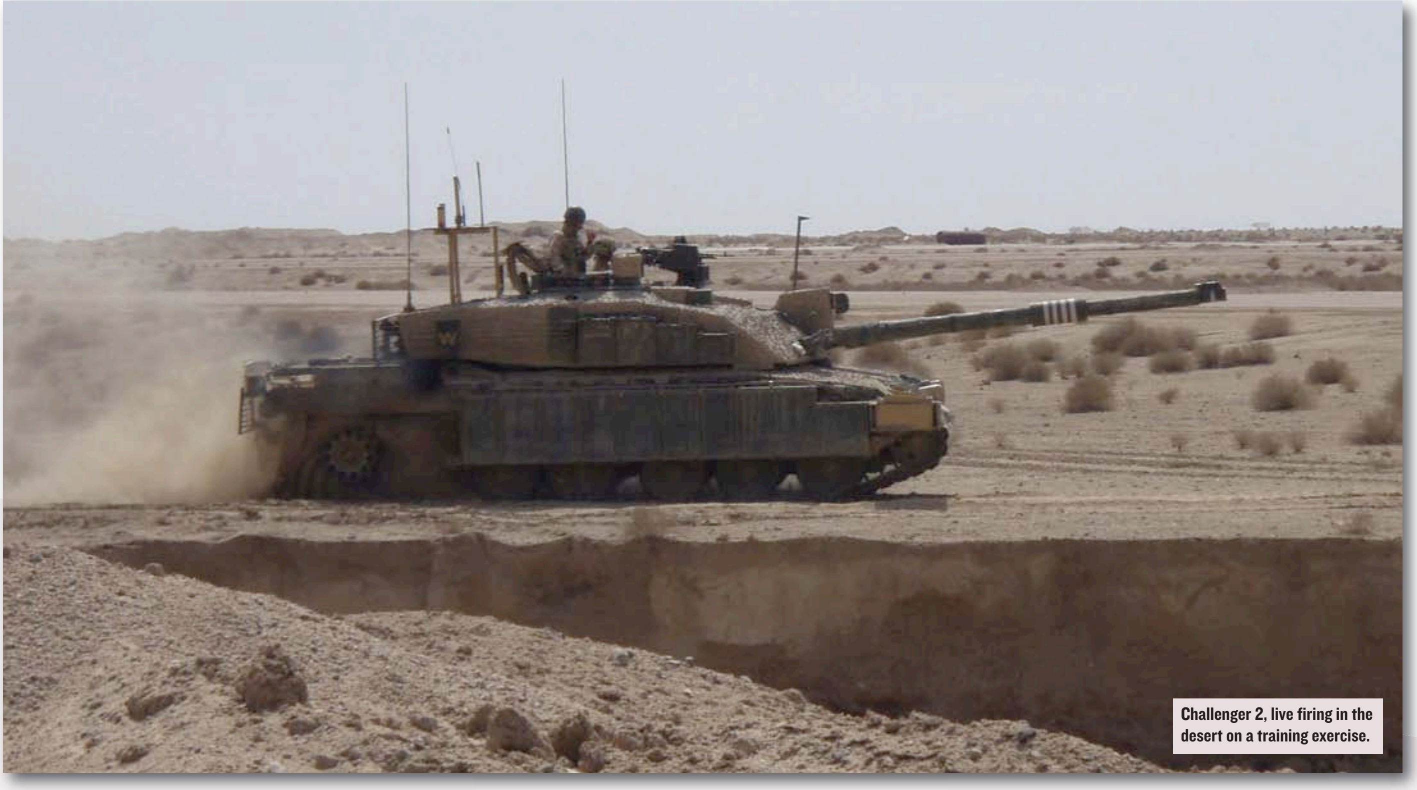


Challenger 2, live firing in the desert on a training exercise.

# MESOPOTAMIA 2007

**Clive Osbaldeston** gives an overview of equipment observed during Op Telic.

We arrived at Basrah Airport in the early hours during 2007 to start our six month tour of Southern Iraq through the summer heat, which in itself brought its own problems including water shortages and postal strikes.

My role in Iraq was to provide real time imagery to Commanders on the ground, which required me and the guys I worked with to deploy with all the Battle Groups operating in Southern Iraq during the summer of 2007.

This allowed for some great camera action documenting vehicles, clothing and building materials.

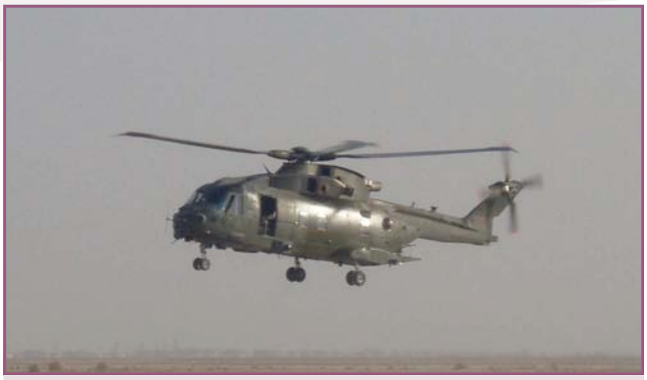
There are plenty of photos of Coalition vehicles - tracked vehicles, some painted in yellow sand paint and others in plain green with heat reflective panels. The latest armour was available as well as some veteran equipment from the Vietnam War and the First Gulf.

There were also many wheeled vehicles, some with no armour as the situation allowed for a Light Order to be adopted as the threat of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and small arms fire was low at this time. This allowed for speedier transit through the desert.

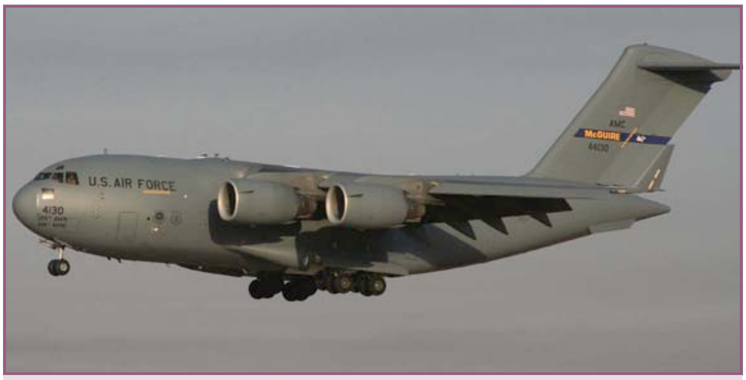
There are also a number of helicopter photos as the modern battlefield is highly mobile on land and in the air. Many support and attack helicopters were deployed, along with heavy lift aircraft arriving constantly.

A number of destroyed Iraqi tanks and troop carrying vehciles littered the desert, some in better condition than others.

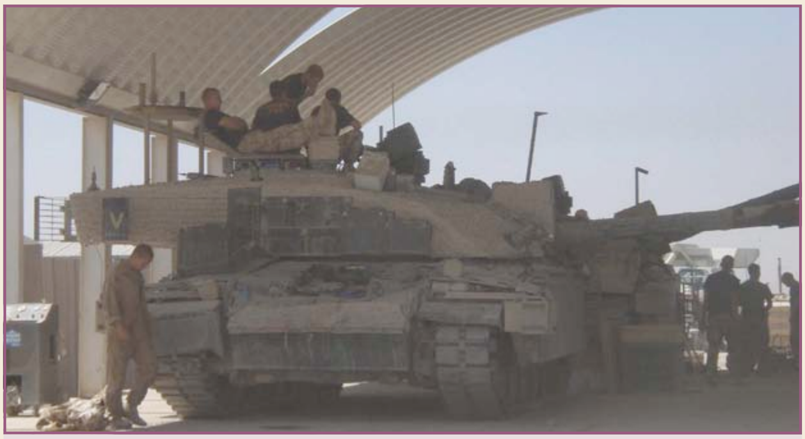
Last but certainly not least I have included some artwork from blast walls and HESCO bastion, all of which are an integral part of modern warfare. ■



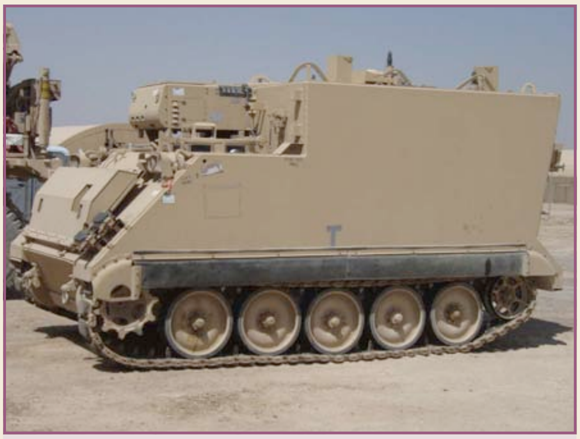
Merlin (SH) the main troop carrying helo in theatre.



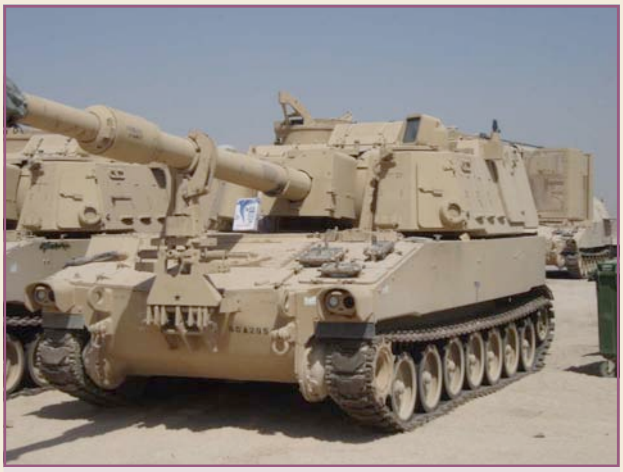
A C-17 coming in to land at the Contingency Operating Base.



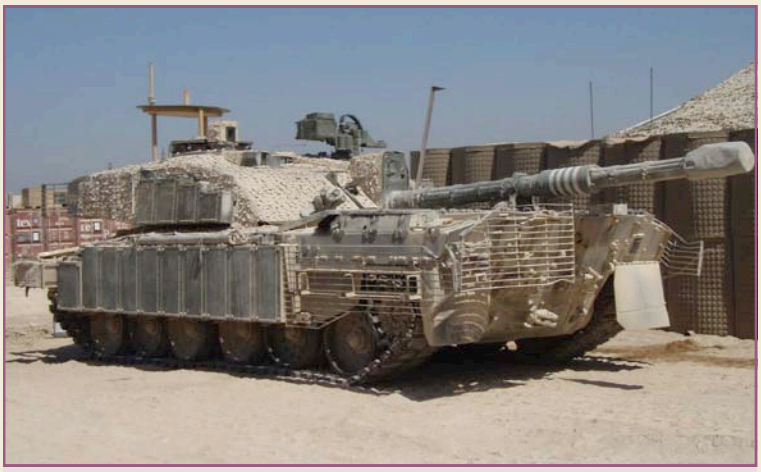
Taking time out under some shade. Note the heat reflective material and extra armour on the turret. There is also a Heath Robinson wire cutter on the forward edge of the turret.



From a different era but still going strong, an M113 command post variant on fire control duties. Note the lack of weathering on any of the road wheels.

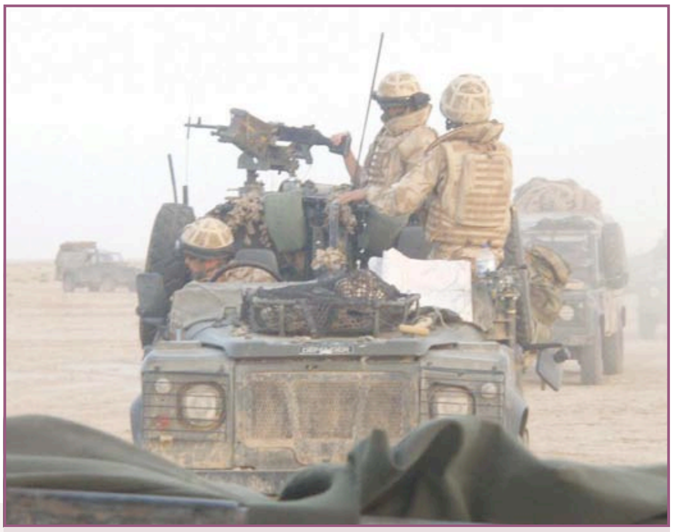


Another blast from the past – an M109 with a box of water next to the turret. Note the air con units on the rear and the lack of weathering on the vehicle.

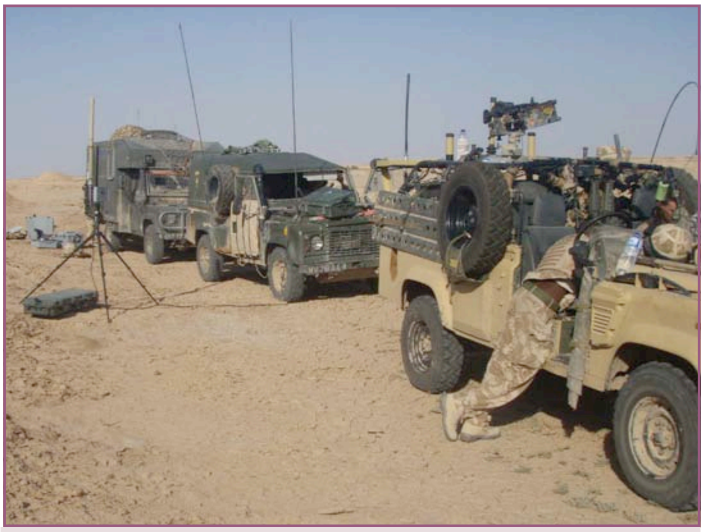


Challenger 2 fitted with bar armour, muzzle cover and electronic mount for GPMG. Note the overall dusty look.

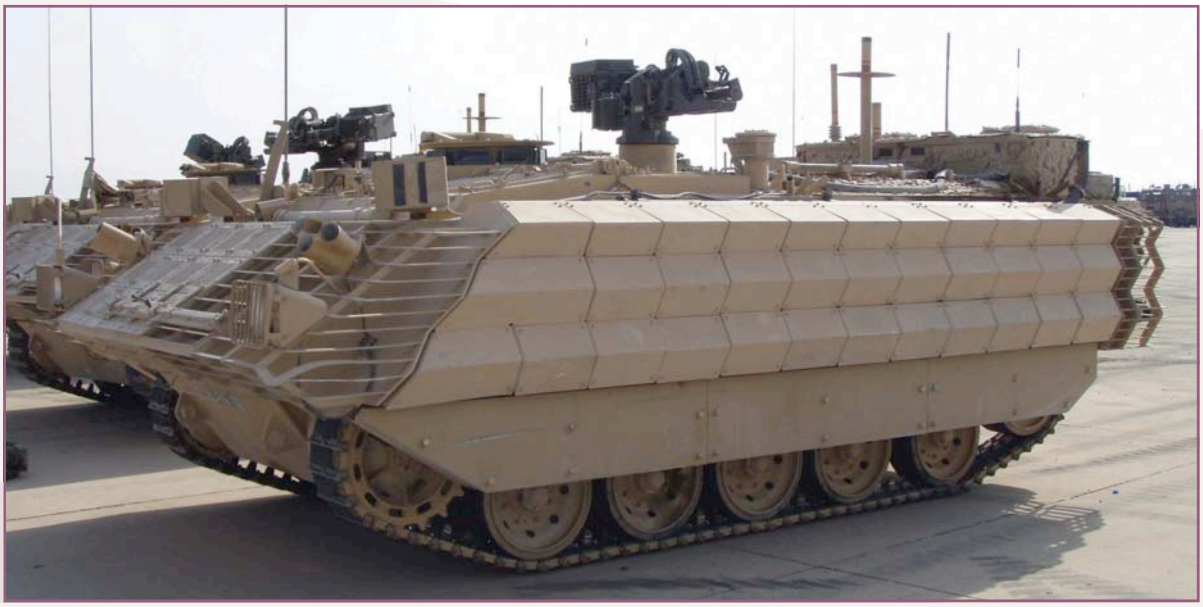
CVR (T) with bar armour in the foreground with its Commander wearing the latest body in the back ground note the tow bar attached to the DROPS to the CVR (T).



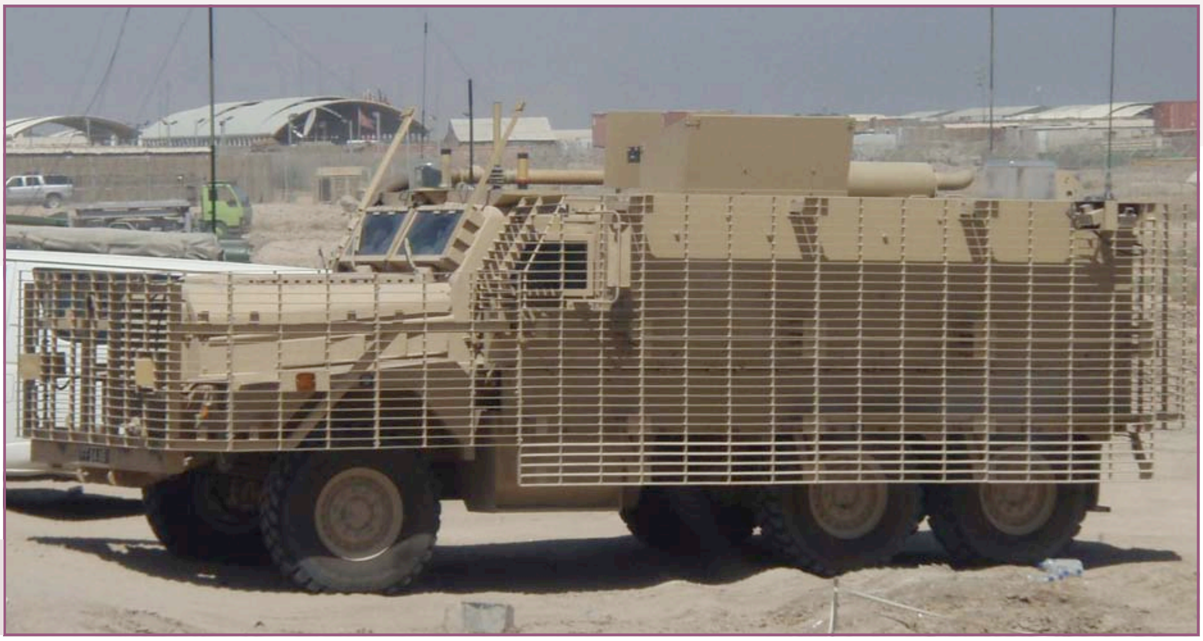
A WIMIC striped down Landover with GPMG mounted on top of the role cage. Note the storage and maps on the bonnet and the missing front grill.



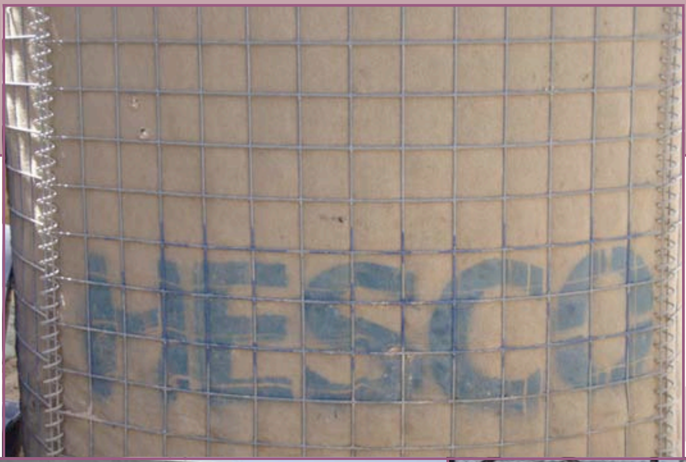
Two General Service (GS) Land Rovers - one missing its windscreen in an overall green scheme and the WIMIC and finished in an overall yellow scheme.



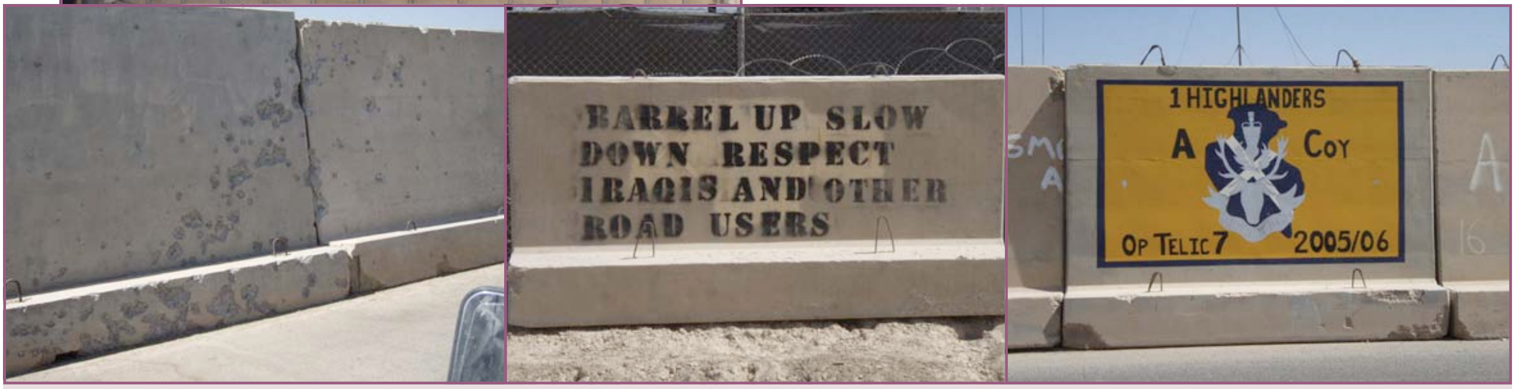
Another blast from the past - a newly named Bulldog. This is an FV432 with a new engine and armour. It also has camera mounted GPMG.



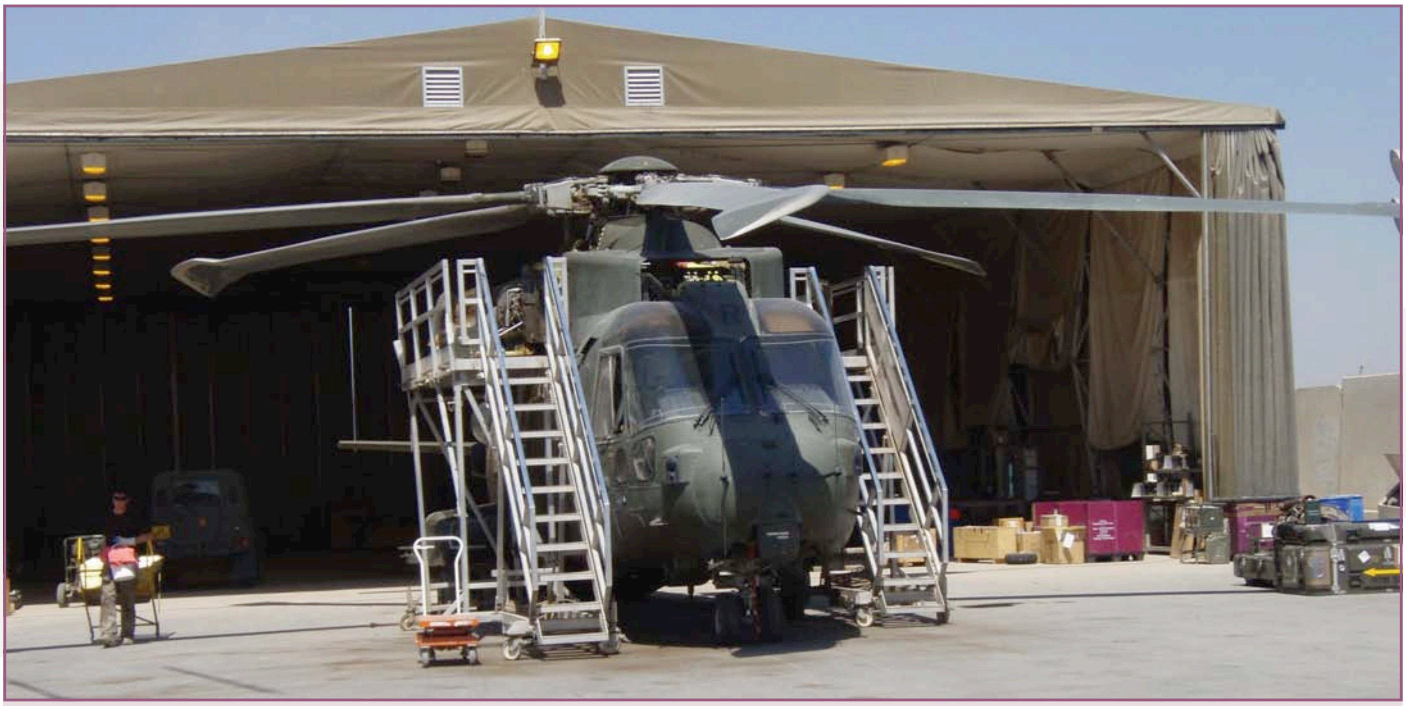
Mastiff troop carrying vehicle with bar armour fitted. Note the bowman antennas fitted at the rear.



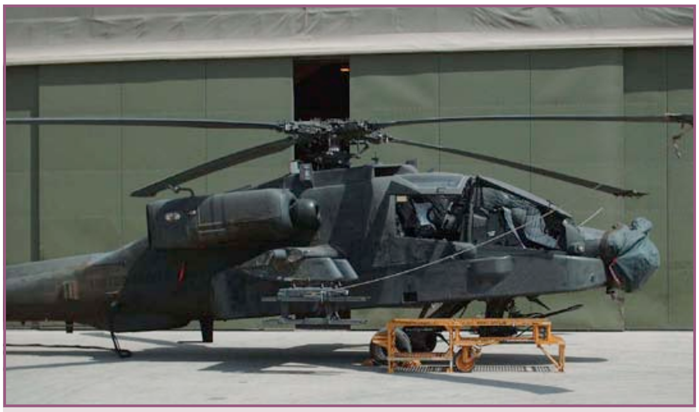
HESCO bastion close up.


BARREL UP SLOW
DOWN RESPECT
IRAQIS AND OTHER
ROAD USERS
1 HIGHLANDERS
A COY
OP TELIC 7
2005/06

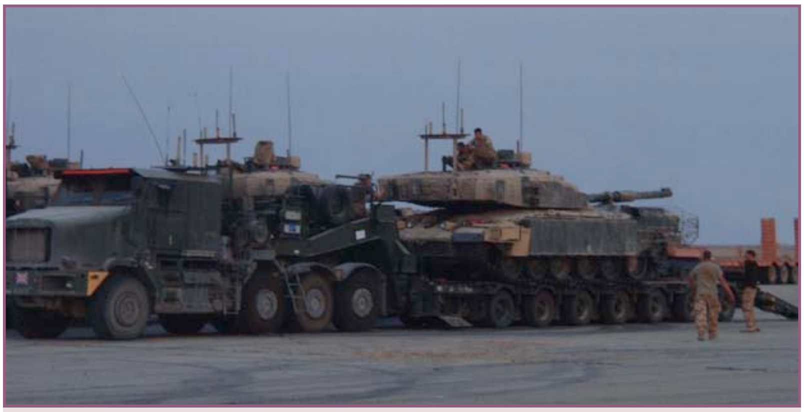
A selection of blast walls, some in better condition than others. Note the steel rope in the blast wall. These are used to move them into position.



A Merlin (SH) undergoing some maintenance under its rapid erection hanger.

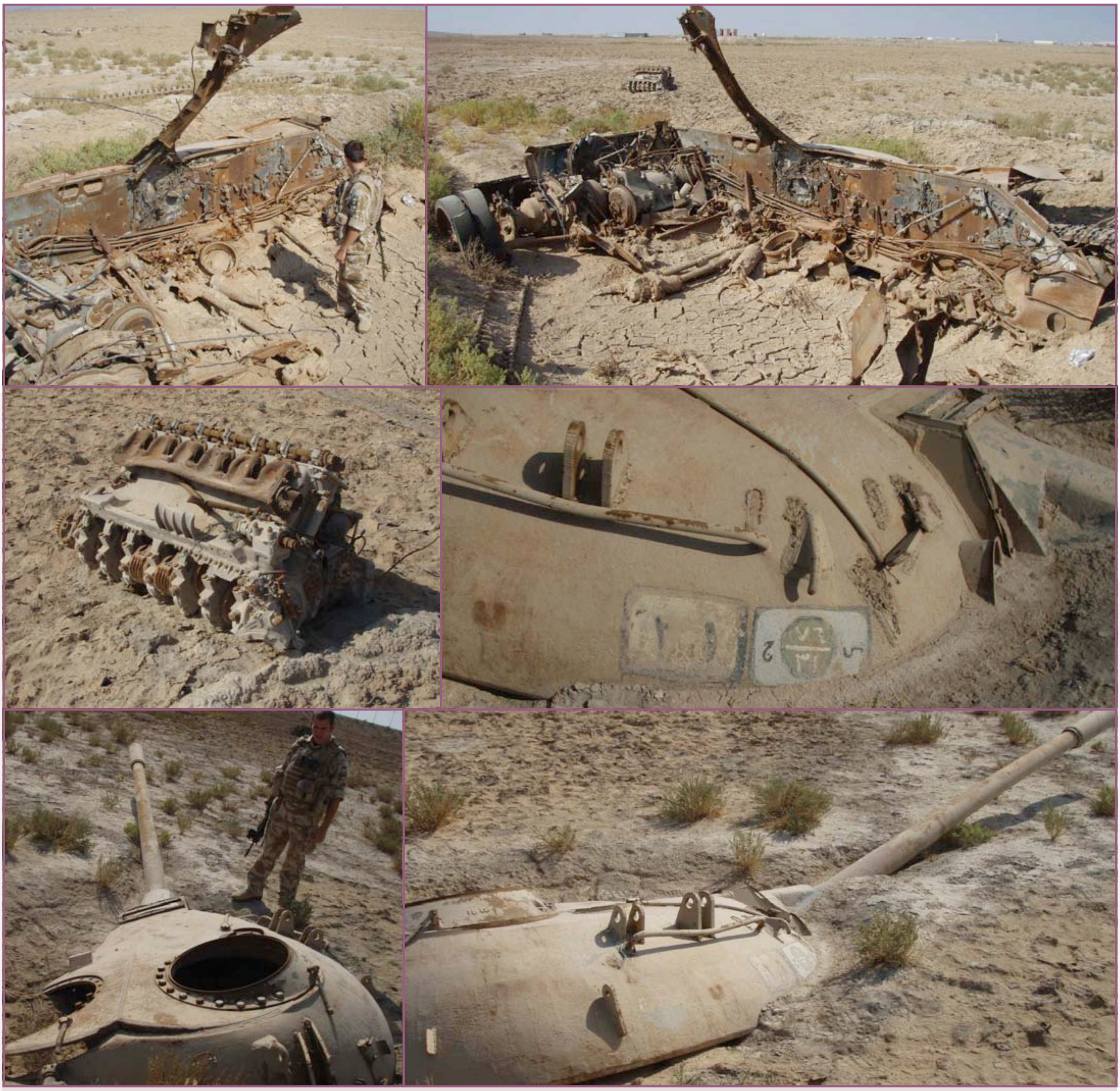


AH-64 sitting outside in the southern Iraqi summer. Note that it is unarmed.

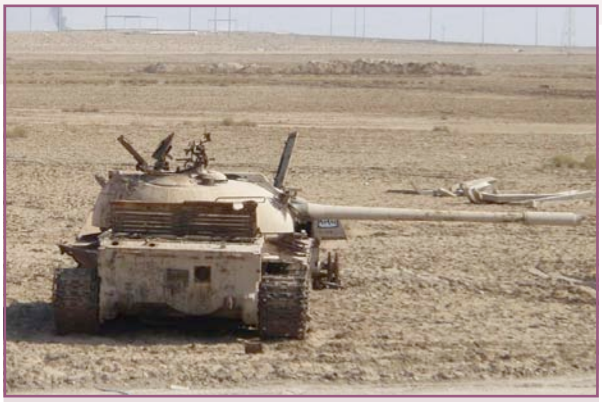


Challenger 2 on the back of one of the many HETZ out in theatre. The orange strip indicates that this is a British vehicle.

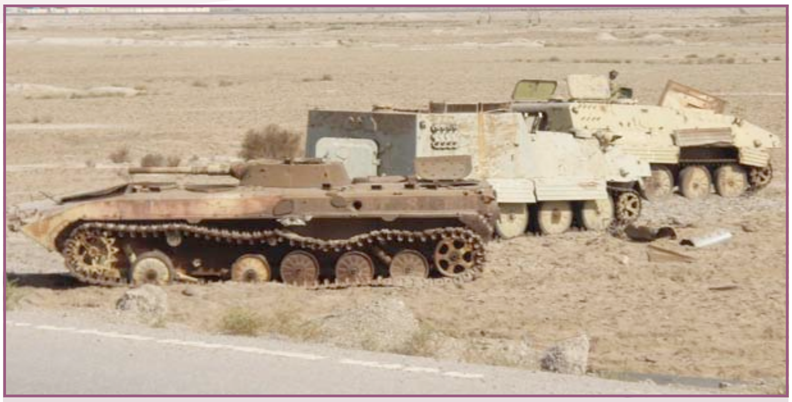
# Think Tank - MESOPOTAMIA 2007



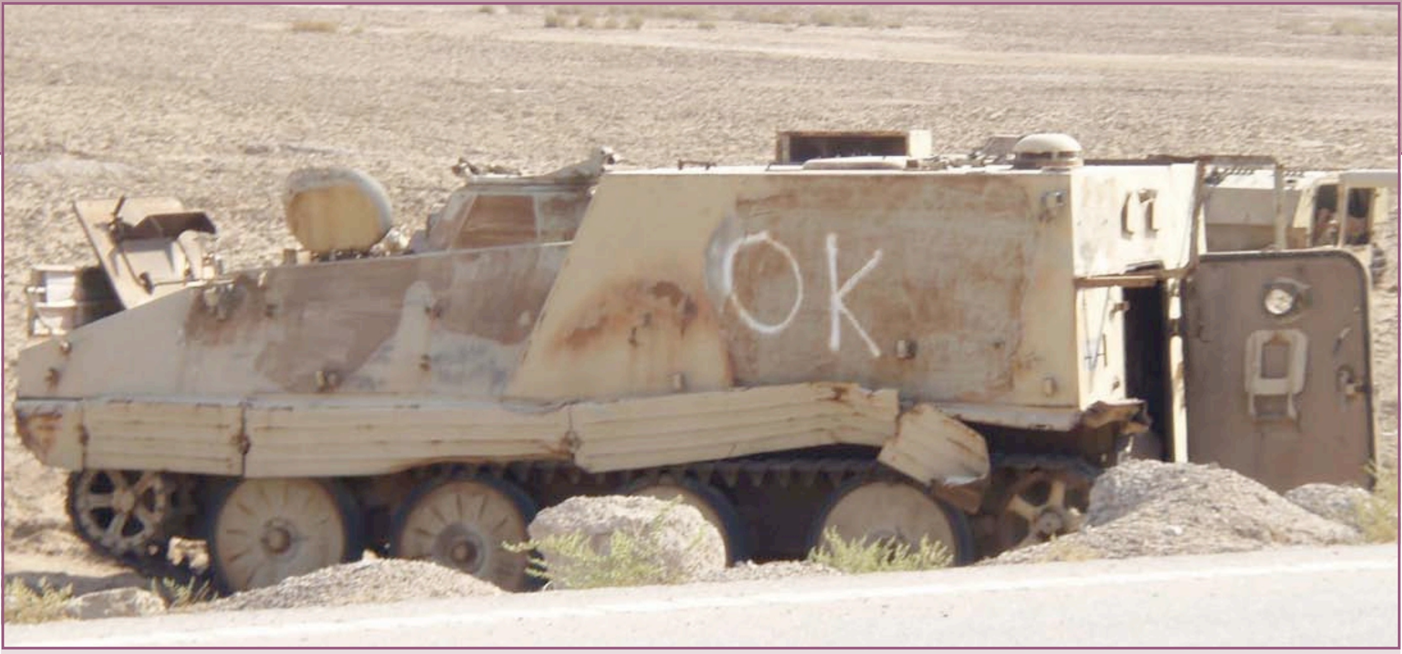
A selection of shots of the many burnt out T-55s laying about the desert. My mate Dave adds scale!



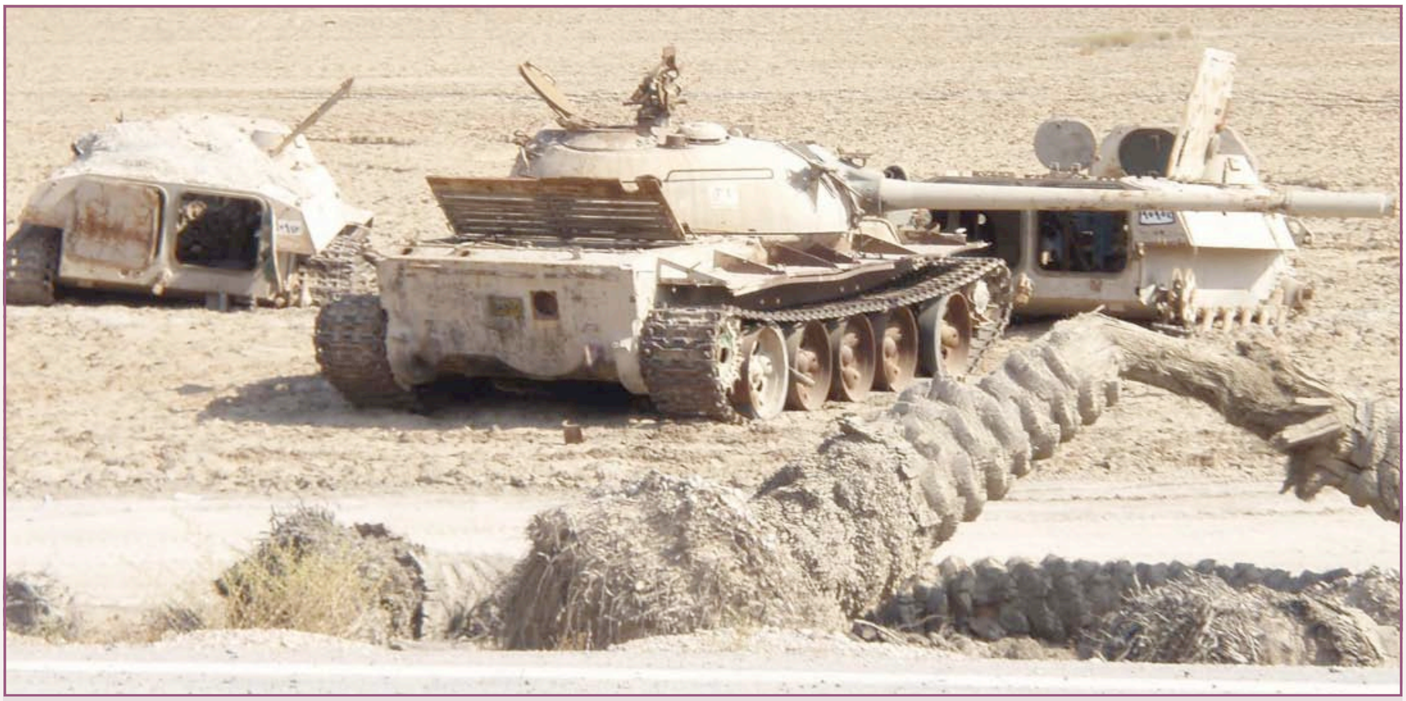
T-55 sat in the desert just as it was on the day it was abandoned. Note the rust around the fume extractor.



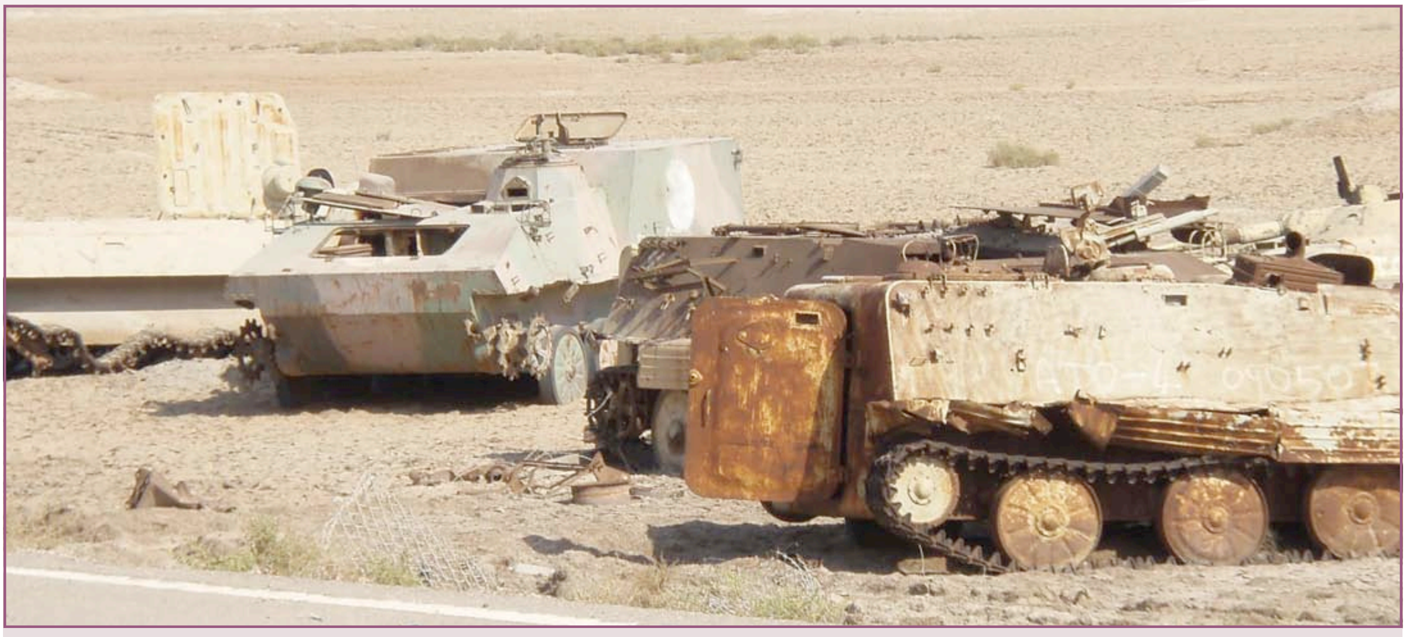
A burnt out BRDM and two abandoned French troop carrying vehicles.



A close up of an French troop carrier with yellow and darker stone colour and a white "OK" sprayed on to denote that it has been cleared.



Not only in yellow - just look at the selection of paint and rust on show.



Another T-55 and pair of BRDMs, one missing its tracks and looking rusty and abandoned.

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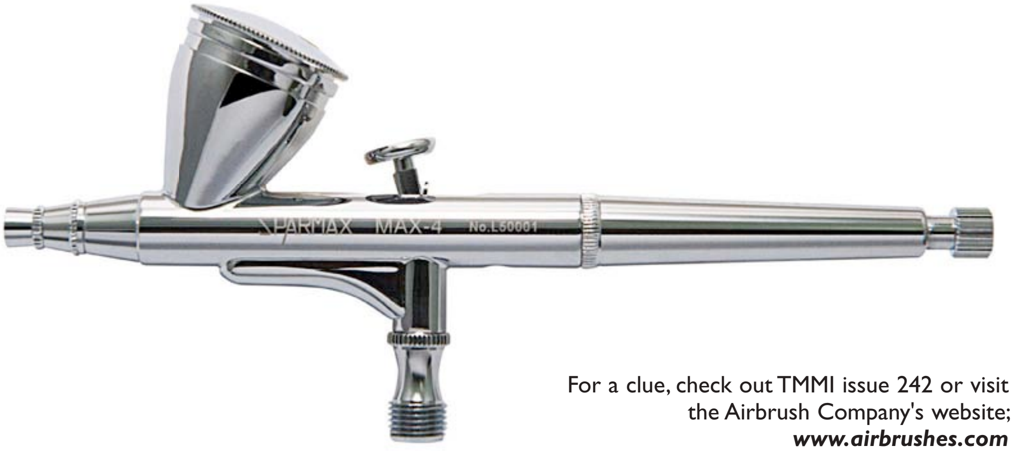
# SPARMAX MAX-4 COMPETITION

## Win a Sparmax MAX-4 double-action airbrush in this free to enter competition!

In TMMI's January issue, Marcus Nicholls examined Sparmax's new MAX-4 airbrush and came to the conclusion that it represents fantastic value for money. The MAX-4 'brush feels solid, well engineered and finished to a high standard. The trigger offers satisfying resistance for good feedback and the instrument is perfectly balanced in the hand. The chrome-plating is flawless and screw threads feel smooth. The MAX-4 is suitable for all general modelling paint application tasks and its large paint bowl is ideal for extended spraying sessions.

**WIN THE MAX-4!**
Now, you have the chance to win your own MAX-4 by answering the question below and sending it in to us as our editorial address.

## Q How many colours is the new ARISM MINI compressor available in?



For a clue, check out TMMI issue 242 or visit the Airbrush Company's website; ***www.airbrushes.com***

**To buy the MAX-4;**
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**Competition rules:**
Usual terms and conditions apply. Only one entry per household. No purchase necessary. The prize awarded is final and there is no cash alternative. Closing date for entries is 31st March 2016. Winners will be notified and the results published in a future issue.

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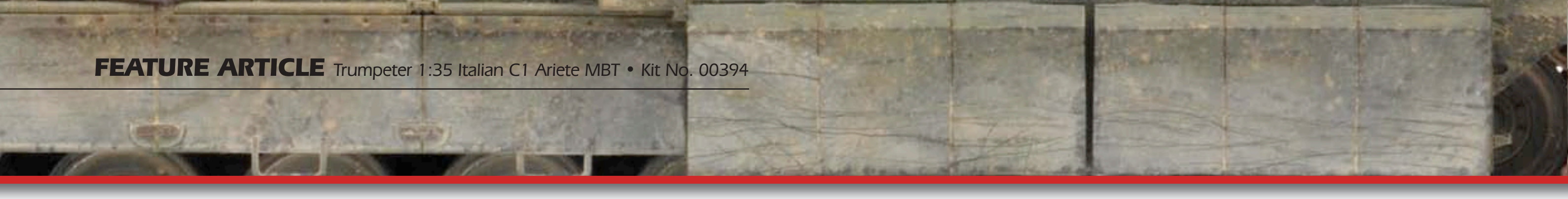


# JAUNTY A

**Andrew Judson** adds a stack of after-market conversion and enhancement parts to Trumpeter's 1:35 scale C1 Ariete Italian Main Battle Tank.

Quite some time ago, Trumpeter released this 1:35 scale kit of the Italian C1 Ariete MBT. It caught my attention and so I bought one, along with Royal Model's after-market add on armour and started to plan the build.

First I started to research this beast and I liked it even more as I did so.

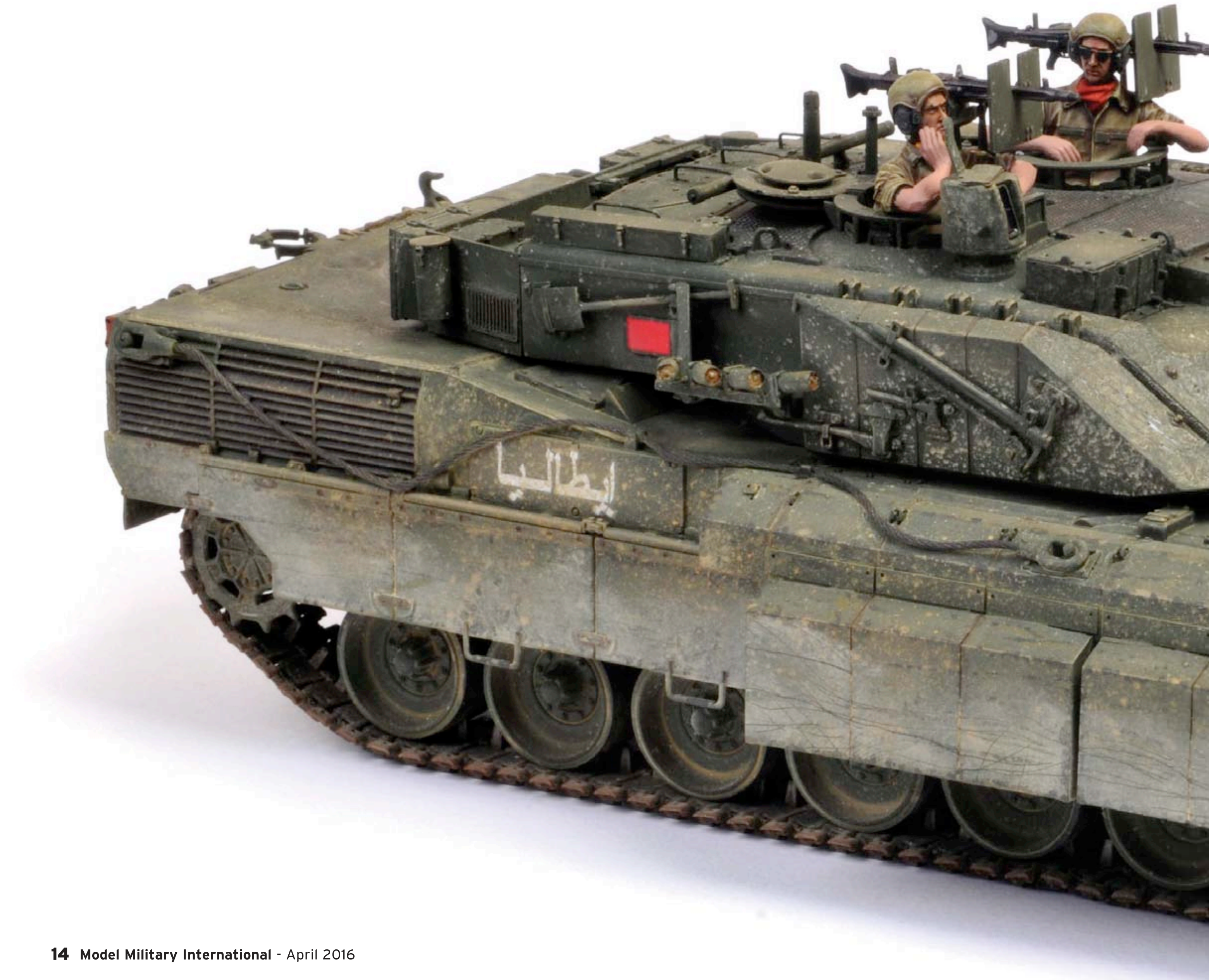
## GETTING STARTED

I have to admit that this kit sat in my stash for quite some time before I actually dug it out and started building it.

Over that period I was able to source an RB metal barrel, Royal Models' additional armour, Royal Models' Italian Tank Crew, Bronco separate workable tracks, and finally a Lion Roar photo-etched set.

I studied the instructions for a bit to determine any modifications that may be required when adding the after market stuff, and was happy to find that only a couple of small parts needed to be removed from the moulding or parts not used at all to be replaced with new bits. With everything sorted, I was ready to start on this project.

The actual kit is quite simple to build, starting with the driveline and tracks. All went together well, though care was required when putting the tracks together as these were from Bronco, and workable, meaning not too much glue!



### ITALIAN COLOURS

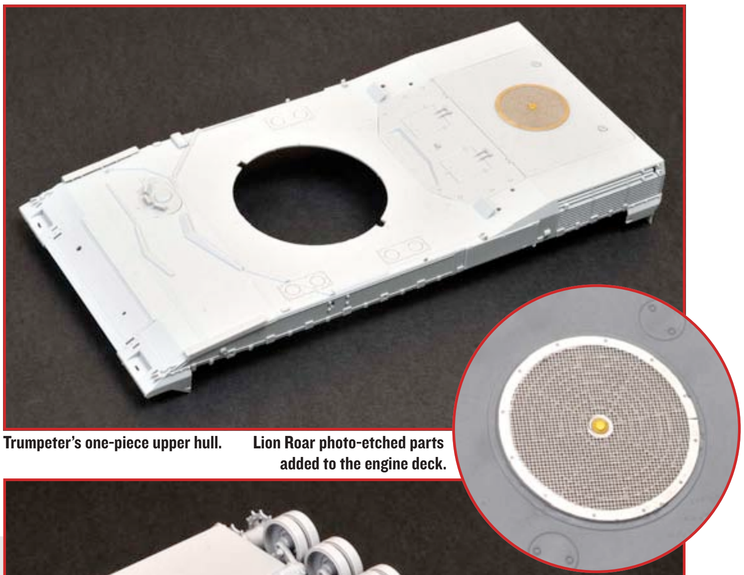
Once construction and conversion was complete, I painted the lower hull and drive line in Tamiya XF-67 NATO Green as the base colour and from there applied washes from the Vallejo series and then used True Earth weathering products to give it a worn, faded and desert beaten look, as this was going to depict one of the vehicles that served in Iraq.

With the weathering done on the lower hull, I moved onto painting the tracks and weathering them up, to match what had been done to the driveline, and then put them in place.

Next it was the upper hull, which again was not a difficult task, although this is where the photo-etch and new additional side armour would be put in place.

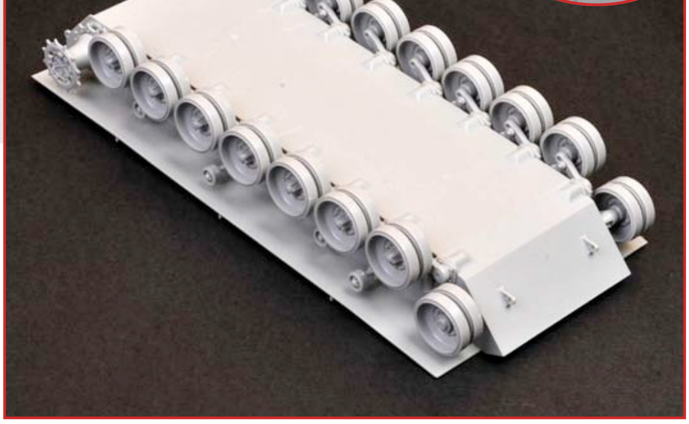
The etch was minimal, mainly being the large rear intake and a few bits on the extra armour. With that all done, I cleaned up the resin armour and then glued this in place, ensuring that the upper hull would still fit onto the lower and also, that all was straight, otherwise i would be facing major issues with the tracks hitting.

With this done and all well, I gave it a base coat of Tamiya NATO Green and then used the same techniques to match what had already been done. The end result was really making this look quite nice, especially with the ▶



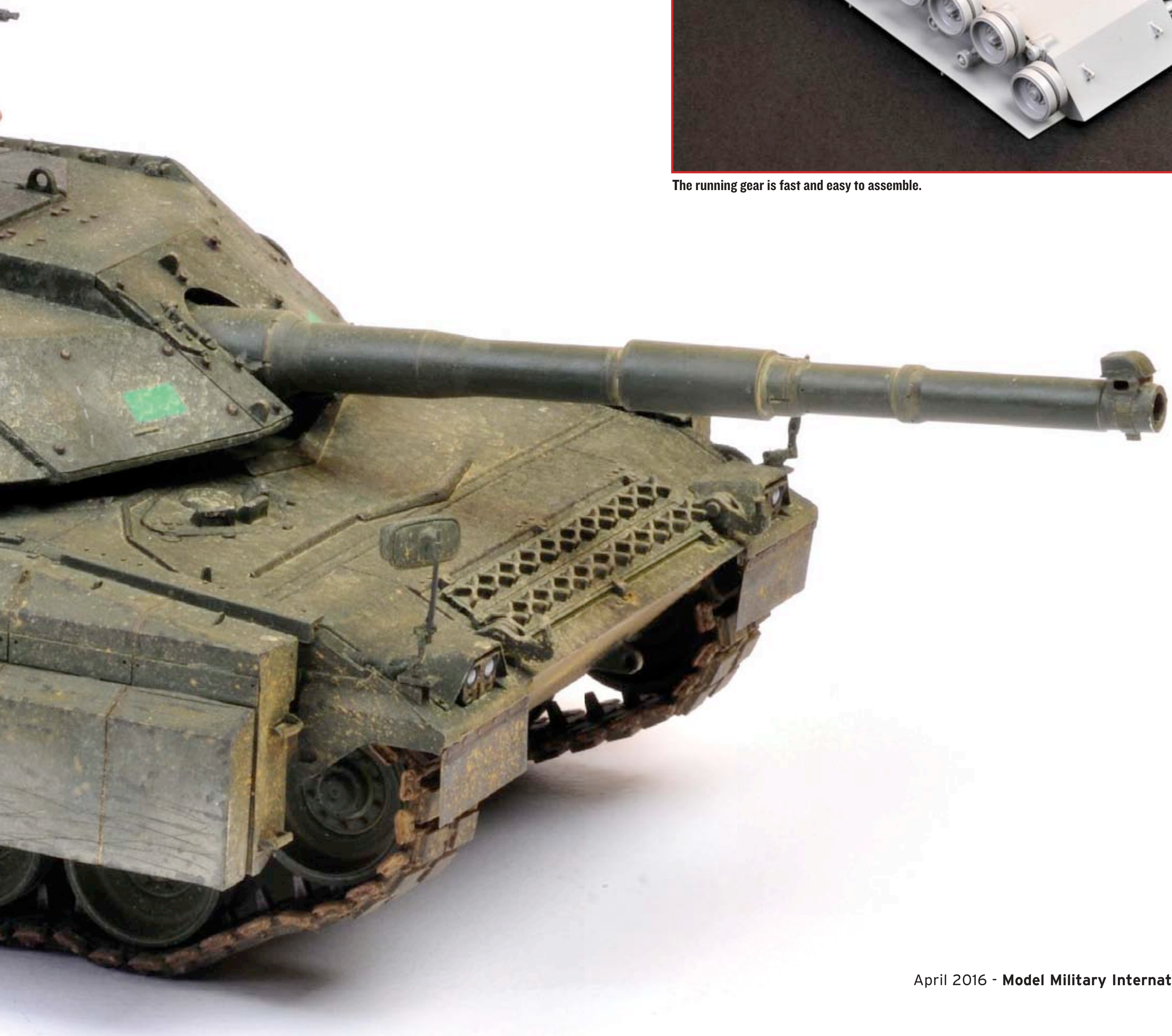
Trumpeter's one-piece upper hull.

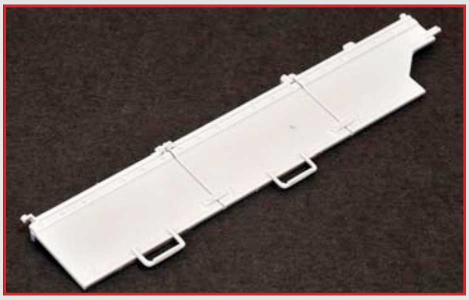
Lion Roar photo-etched parts added to the engine deck.



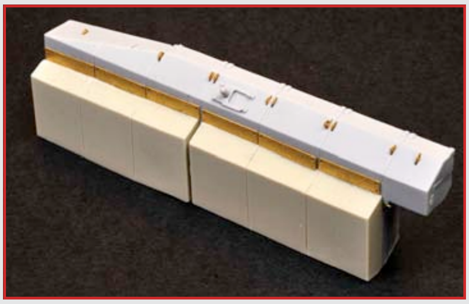
The running gear is fast and easy to assemble.

# RIETE

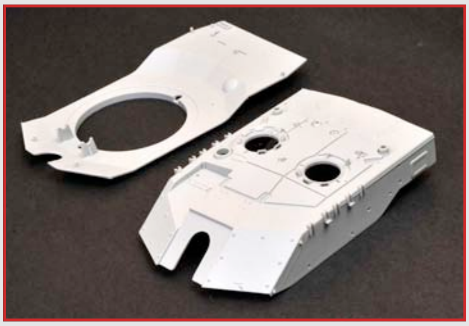




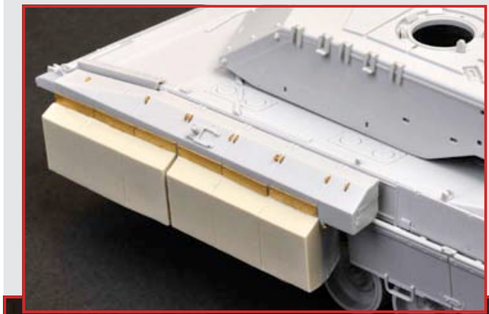
The kit's rear side skirts.



Royal Models' resin upgraded side armour, complete with photo-etched enhancements.



The basic kit turret upper and lower halves. Much of the detail is moulded in place.



The new armour glued to the kit. Very little kit surgery is required to install these.

The impressive turret bristling with plastic kit detail.

◀ additional armour, giving it a real beefy look. So far so good!

Last was the turret, which also had a little extra work involved, in the form of some etch, and the metal RB barrel. The barrel was a challenge in itself, as it came in 8 parts, some etch and no instructions. To overcome this i simply looked at the kit part, and matched it all up. The end result, a very nice looking barrel.

The remainder of the turret was a fairly simple build, replacing some kit parts with etch, such as side grilles and a few clamps. The two top mounted MGs and shields were put in place, and as the rest, all the base colours and weathering were done, now making it ready for the final weathering stages.

## FINAL WEATHERING

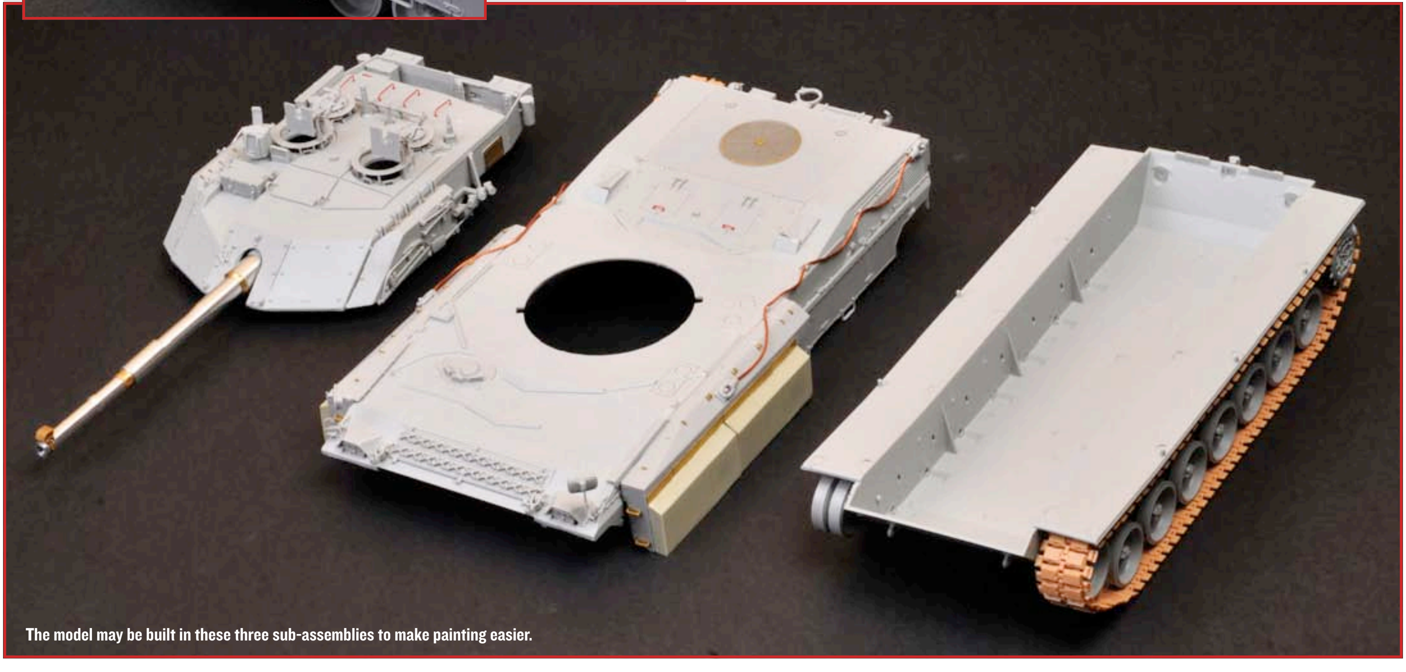
The final weathering finishes were quite simple. Although I had already done some weathering along the way, I wanted to tie it all in together and also give it that little extra.

First, again using Vallejo washes, I went over the vehicle picking out areas that just quite weren't showing off the detail, and gave small spot pin washes in sepia and darker brown colours. Over this I then took various True Earth ground colours and spattered them up the sides, front and back; and other areas of the vehicle that would have been effected. These were then left to completely dry.

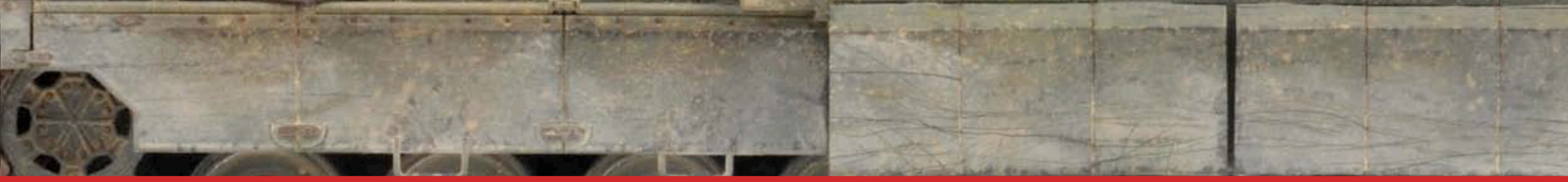
While drying, I assembled the two Royal Model resin figures, and prepared them for painting. These went together very well, with just a small amount of Squadron Green putty in the joints and then primed ready to go.

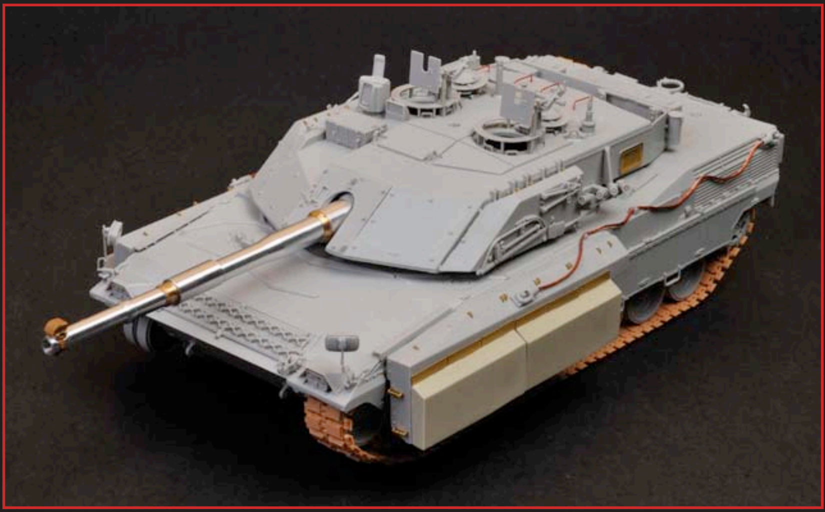
## SCRATCHING AND RE-SCRATCHING

With the vehicle now dry, I wanted to apply some scratching effects, mainly down the sides of the add on armour. Originally I did this with a fine brush and a dark brown mix of paint, although, when done it looked way out of scale as advised by some other modellers. I ended up re painting these areas again, being careful for a good match, and then, using a small dental scribe, actually scratched the paint work, leaving a much better, more subtle and realistic finish. ▶

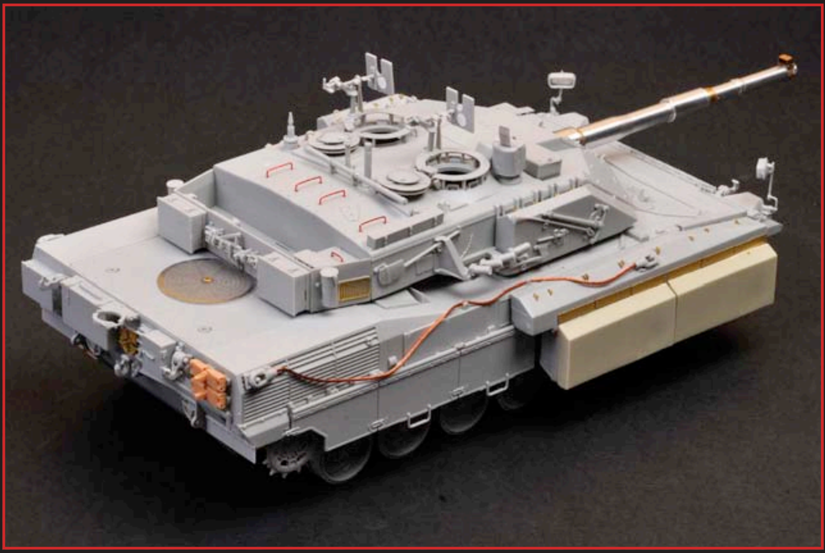


The model may be built in these three sub-assemblies to make painting easier.

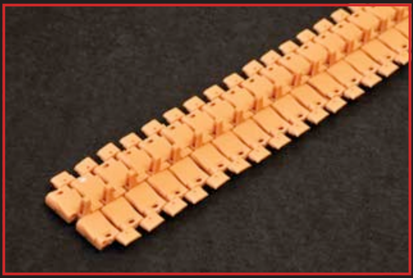




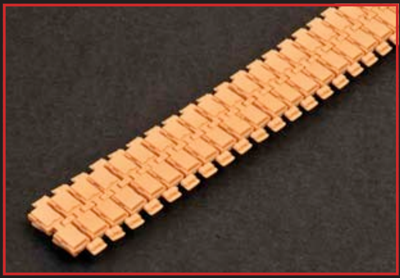
Three easy pieces!



Resin, photo-etched and scratch built parts have been fitted here.

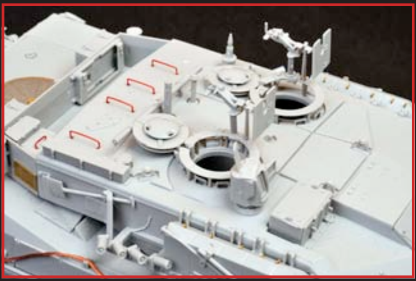


The Bronco links are tedious to clean up and assemble, but they are a vast improvement over the kit tracks. Note the hollow guide horns.



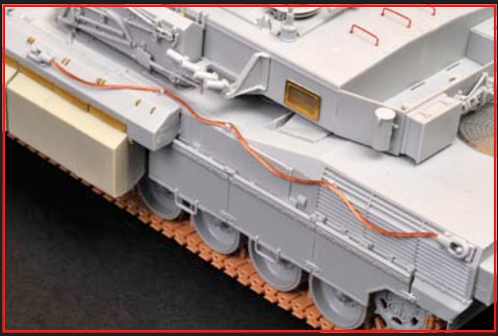
Detail is excellent on both sides.

The gorgeous RB barrel.

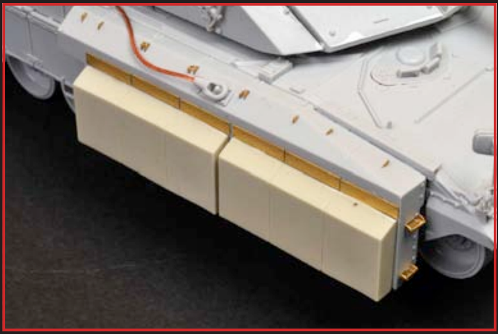


Hand holds were bent from copper wire.

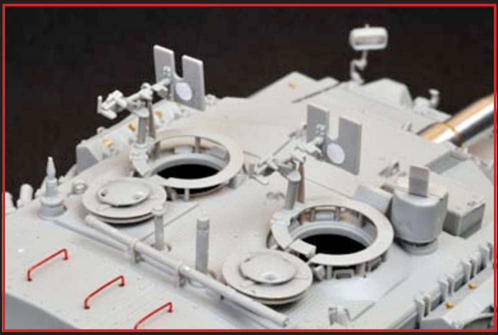
The completed rear deck.



The tow cables are lengths of copper wire.

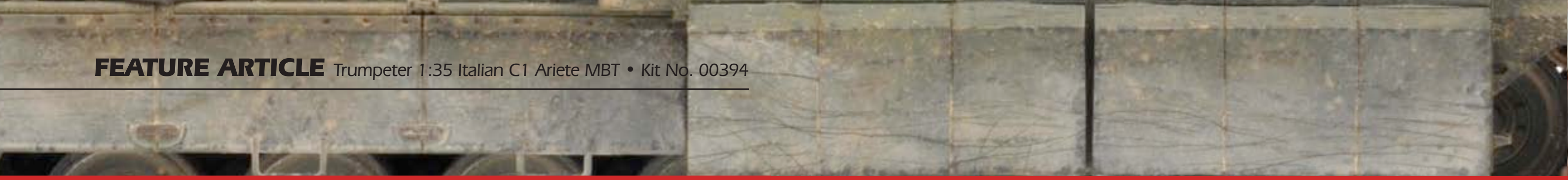


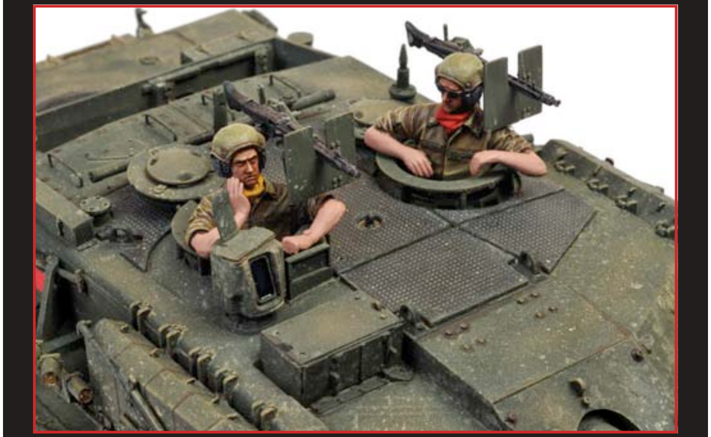
Driver's side additional armour.



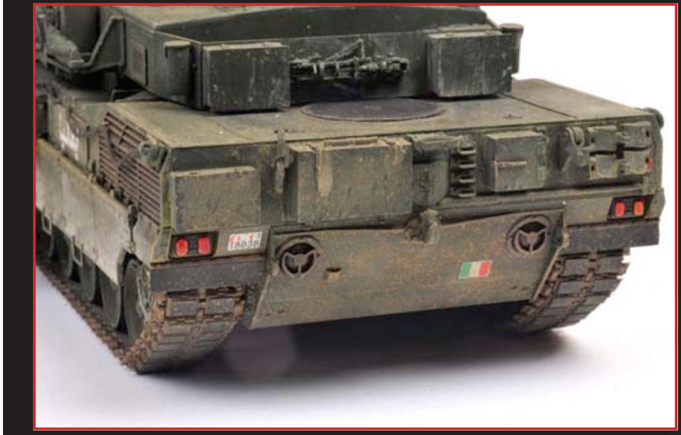
Note the non-slip texture on the turret roof.

Bronco tracks have been used as spare links.

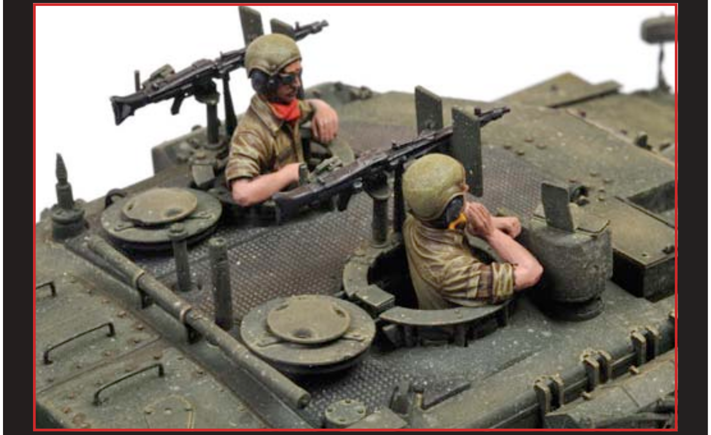




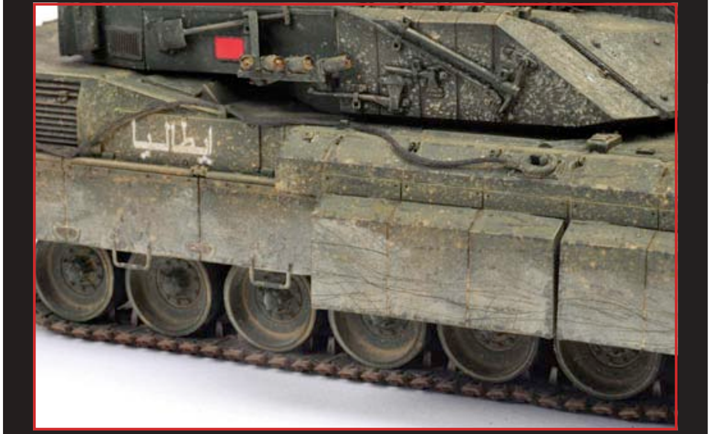
The crew figures are specifically for the C1 Ariete.



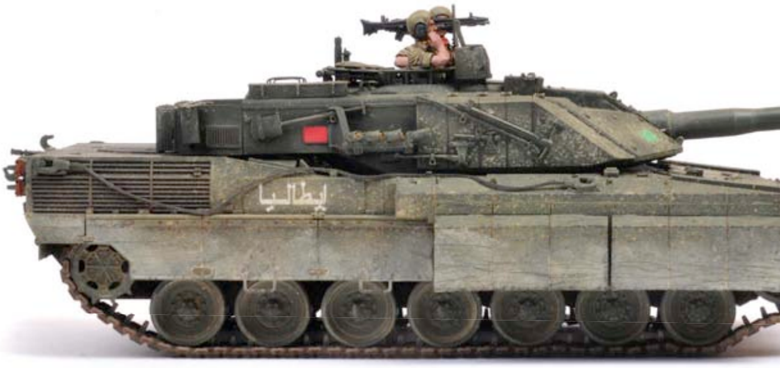
Tail lights have been painted with Vallejo acrylics.



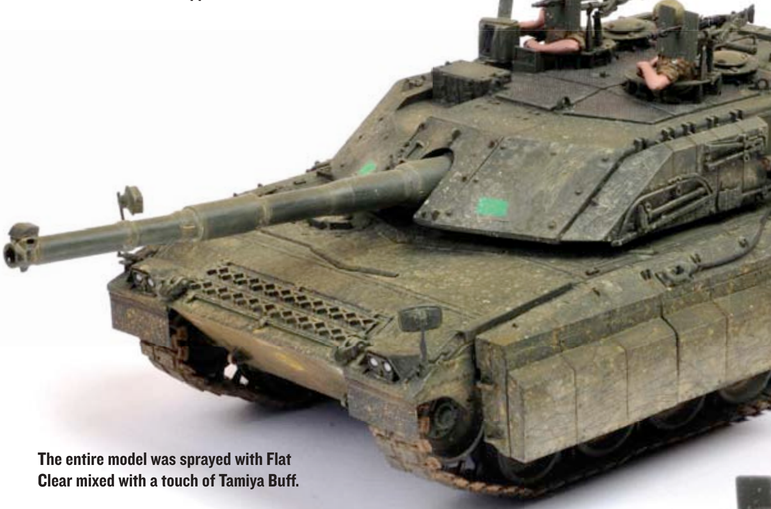
The figures are from Royal Models and painted with Citadel acrylics.



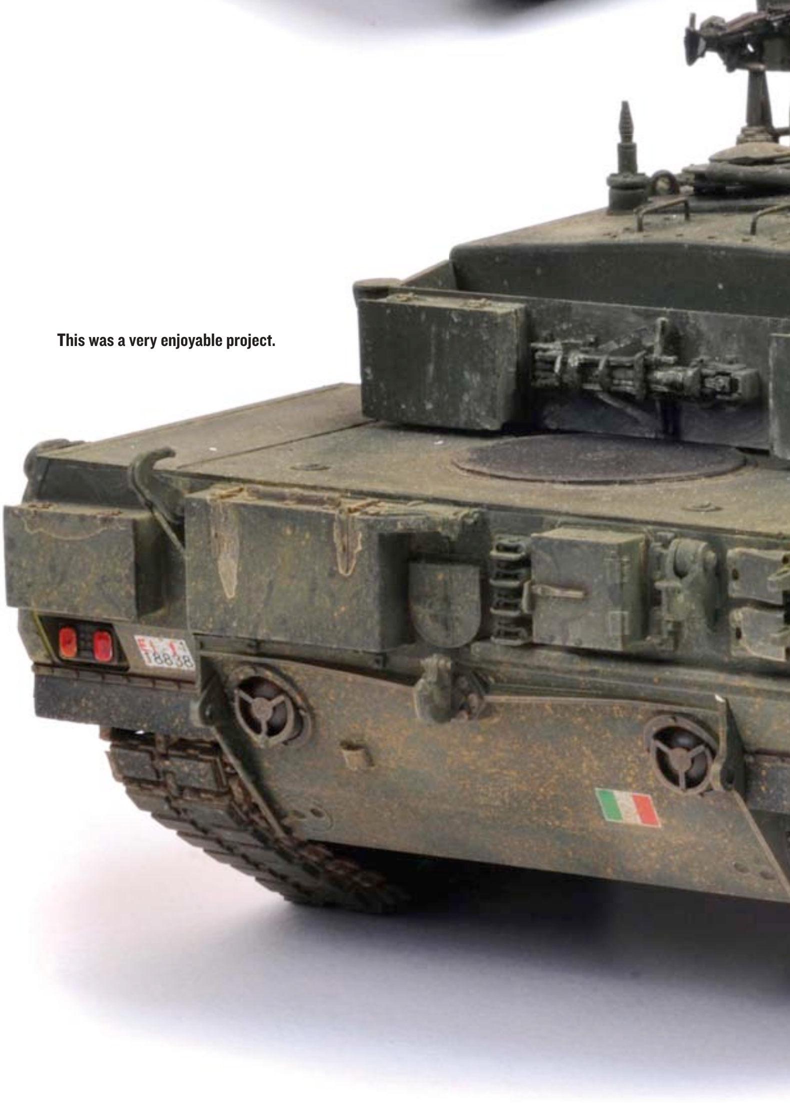
A close view of the dust and spattering effects.



Scratches have been added, then toned down, then re-applied.



The entire model was sprayed with Flat Clear mixed with a touch of Tamiya Buff.



This was a very enjoyable project.

Over this I then sprayed Flat Clear over the entire vehicle with a touch of Tamiya Buff in it to give that last little touch with some over all fading. This was then put aside and left to completely dry over a 48 hour period.

### FIGURE PAINTING

The last step was painting up the figures using the Games Workshop range of paints from Citadel, using a range of their crazy named greens, browns, and flesh tones.

The faces were enhanced a little with Vallejo washes, giving that little final shading.

Once painted, they were glued into place, and all was finished.

### CONCLUSION

It is only recently that we have seen some modern Italian subjects being released. I have always wanted to build something Italian as my wife has family currently serving in the Italian military and I thought it would be nice to do this for them.

It was a very enjoyable project, and I look forward to building another Italian vehicle in the future.

Happy modelling all! ■

## Modelspec

**Trumpeter 1:35 Italian C1 Ariete MBT Kit No. 00394**

### Accessories Used

Royal Models Item No. 432 - Ariete M.A.Babilonia Late Details
Royal Models Item No. 444 - Italian MBT Ariete Tank Crew/Tanker
Bronco Item No. 3527 - C1 Ariete Track Set
Lion Roar Item No. 35058 - Photoetch for 1:35 Italian C1 Ariete MBT (3pcs)

### Paints and Finishing Products:

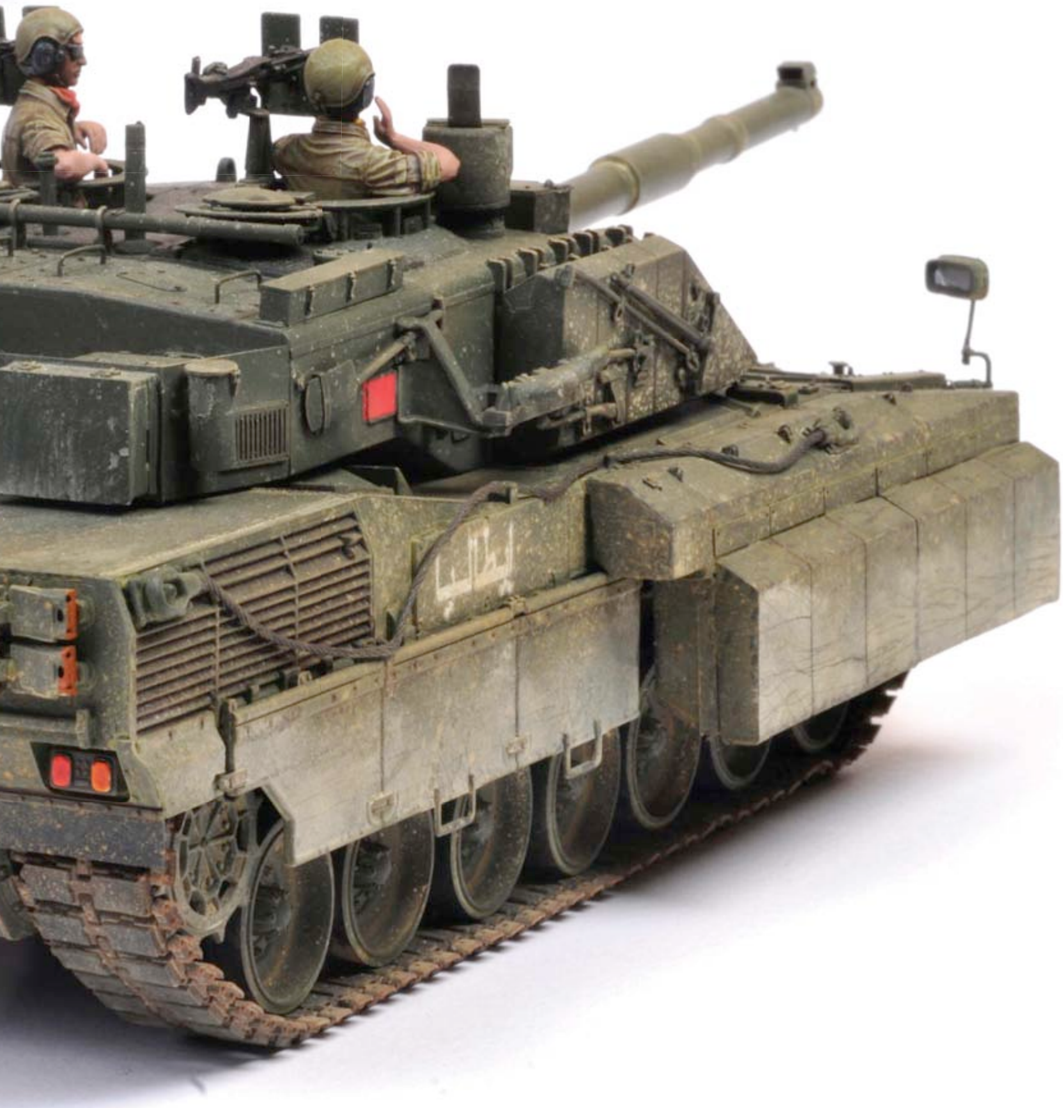
Tamiya Acrylics XF-67 NATO Green; XF-57 Buff
Vallejo Acrylics - Various
Games Workshop Citadel Acrylic Paints (Various)
True Earth Weathering Products
Vallejo Washes

✓ Good detail; straightforward build.
✗ Some simplification in base kit.

### Available from

Trumpeter kits are distributed in the UK by Pocketbond www.pocketbond.co.uk

**Rating** ●●●●●●●●○○



Hand picked for 2016

NEW
04936
Handley Page HALIFAX B Mk.III, 1:72

NEW TOOL
04921
BAe Hawk T1 Red Arrows, 1:72

NEW TOOL
07026/07027
Porsche 918, 1:24

NEW TOOL
07009
VW T1 Samba Bus, 1:16

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# C1 ARIETE

## Full-sized reference of the C1 Ariete.

The C1 Ariete is the main battle tank of the Italian Army, developed by a consortium formed by Iveco-Fiat and Oto Melara. The chassis and engine were produced by Iveco, while the turret and fire-control system were supplied by Oto Melara.

The tank has a conventional layout similar to other Western MBTs with the driver located at the front of the hull, the fighting compartment towards the middle, and the engine compartment located in the rear of the hull.

The Ariete's main armament is a local version of the smoothbore Rheinmetall 120 mm gun. Secondary armament consists of a 7.62 mm MG 42/59 coaxial machine gun operated by the tank gunner or commander and an additional 7.62 mm MG 42/59 configured as an anti-aircraft weapon operated by the main-gun loader from his hatch.

The vehicle carries the latest optical and digital-imaging and fire-control systems, enabling it to fight day and night and to fire on the move.

The Ariete is powered by a 25.8-litre turbo-charged Fiat-Iveco MTCA 12-cylinder diesel engine in a Vee configuration rated at 937 kilowatts (1,250 hp) at 2,300 rpm, with a maximum torque of 4,615 N·m at 1,600 rpm driving through a ZF LSG3000 automatic transmission, with four forward gears and two reverse, allowing for a top cruising speed of 65 km/h and a 0–32 km/h acceleration in 6 s.

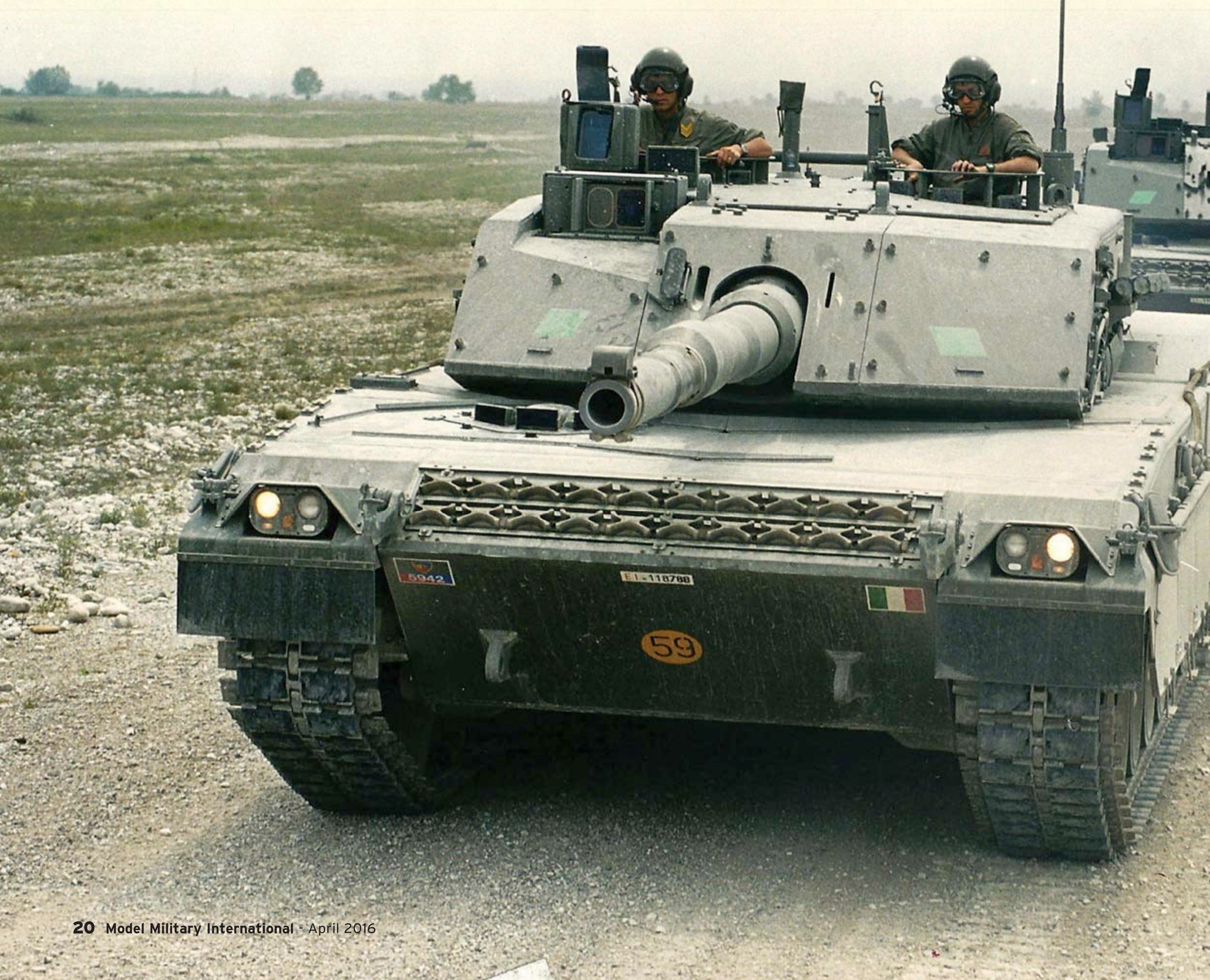
The computer-controlled transmission allows it to climb grades rated up to 60%, and can ford waterways of up to 1.25 m on-the-fly. The entire engine and transmission assembly can be replaced in under 1 hour.

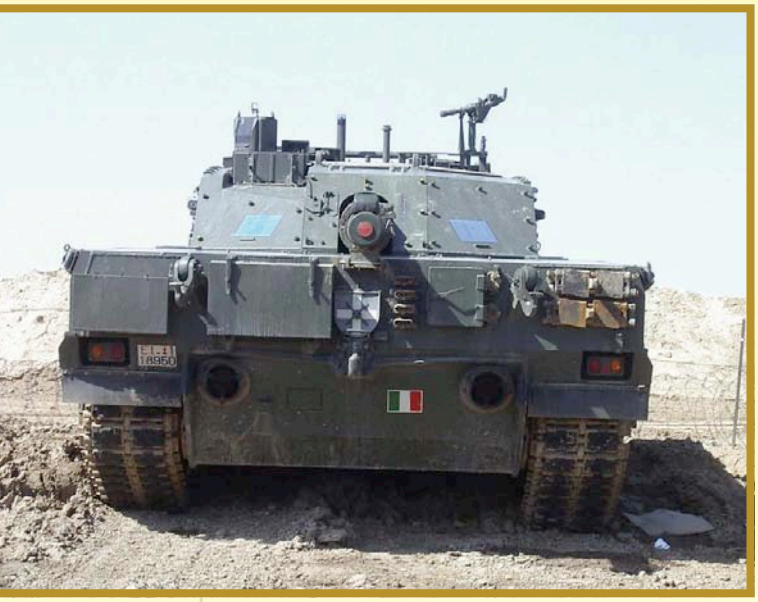
The Ariete's independent suspension system consists of 14 torsion bars with suspension arms, 10 hydraulic shock absorbers (installed on road wheels numbers 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7) and 14 friction dampers.

Six prototypes were developed by 1988, which were subject to intensive testing the following year during which the vehicles travelled a combined 16,000 km.

Deliveries were first planned for 1993, but in fact took place in 1995 due to delays. Final delivery occurred 8 years later in August 2002.*

The C1 Ariete was deployed to Iraq in 2004. ■

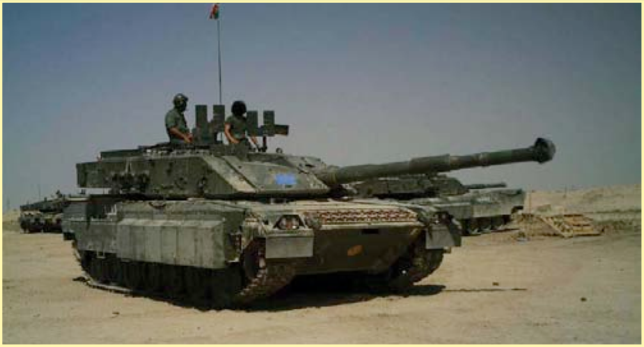




▲ Rear panel view of the CI Ariete.

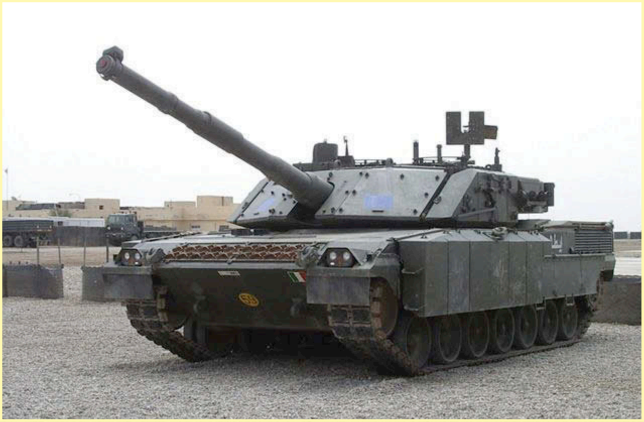
▲ An Ariete in Iraq, up to its axles in dried mud!

◄ An early version CI Ariete.
Note the thin side armour plates.



▲ A CI Ariete Mk.2 with upgraded armour.

▲ A sandy Ariete and another indigenous Italian vehicle, the Dardo IFV.



▲ A nice front three quarter view of the upgraded Ariete.

▲ Italian Centauro armoured car and Ariete in Iraq.

▲ An upgraded CI Ariete on a firing exercise in Iraq.

---

* Historical text based on Wikipedia entry https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ariete

1:35 '39-'45 SERIES
StuG.III Ausf.F
w/7.5cm L/48
Last Production
Smart Kit
DRAGON

Sprue breakdown.

# FINAL "F"

## Dragon adds the final production Stug III Ausf. F for the first time. **Graham Tetley** checks out this new effort.

Dragon has provided us with a couple of Stug III Fs over the years but this is one version that has not been done before. Entering production in March of 1942, the Ausf. F filled the role of both an assault gun and a tank destroyer. It was produced until September 1942 with approximately 359 made in total, but 31 of the 'late' models were armed with the longer L/48 gun, which this model depicts.

It draws many parts from the previously released StuG. III F/8 Early Production Italy 1943, Kit 6620, which itself was based on the StuG III Ausf F/8 Late Production w/ Winterketten, Kit 6644.

In this box we have no new plastic parts, indeed this is reflective of Dragon's current approach to their new releases simply being a mix 'n' match of existing sprues to give new versions. The etched fret is however new and exclusive to this release but what we do have are all of the parts necessary to give us a Late 'F'. The additional welded hull & glacis armour is there, as are the shortened mudguards, repositioned Notek light, and the redesigned casemate frontal armour that carried over to the F8.

Starting with the lower hull, the hull consists of a large single piece tub with excellent detail on the exterior and interior surfaces including hull bottom detail for various access hatches and ports. The kit suspension follows the now-familiar DML Pz III/StuG III family and comprises of moveable torsion bars onto which the swing arms attach. The road wheels, sprockets & idlers include some really sharp detail although, despite being marketed as a 'Smart' Kit, Dragon has decided to provide the inner idler rings in 12 (yes, 12!) pieces of etch.

The tracks provided are of the DS type. Mine had not been mangled in transit but they still contain enough flash and soft detail to ensure that I will be replacing them.

Turning to the fenders, they have superb detail both top and bottom but be prepared to do some surgery as part of each fender has to be removed and also some holes opened up. The tools come with molded-on clamps which do look the part and are certainly more robust than the etched equivalents. Optional parts are provided for the rear fender flaps that include use of PE and/or styrene items as the mini fender extensions when the flaps were raised. The antenna trough is included and its new mounts are found on the etched fret.

The upper hull consists of three sections covering the glacis, casemate, and engine deck. The glacis has the extra armour plates present plus we get separate parts to go atop the front armour. The casemate is moulded as a large tub with additional separate side panniers into which go the radios. The casemate roof is a separate part as are all the hatches meaning that you can view the interior, however the casemate sides are devoid of detail apart from a couple of stowed MP40's which do come with etched slings and leather securing straps. Consult your references if you want to add additional detail.

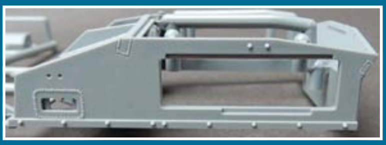
The floor and rear bulkheads have finely detailed compartments and tread plate included however the ammunition compartments are missing. The gun breech and mount are highly detailed and do give you enough to look at through open hatches. I must say here that Dragon have omitted from this release the clear parts, so things such as the driver's vision block, gunner's sight & periscopes only come in grey plastic. This is a retrograde step in my opinion.

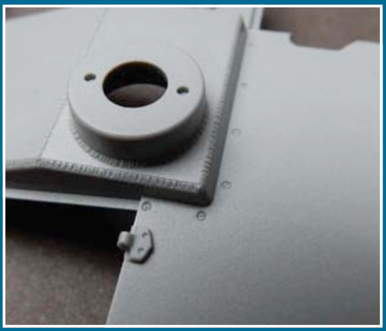
The kit instructions are standard Dragon and whilst I have done a quick check I cannot say for certain that it is error free. We get some generic markings for two unidentified units simply marked as '1942'.

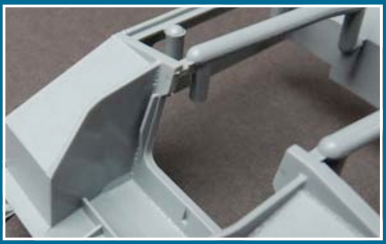
We appear to have here a comprehensive late 'F' so that, in my view, scores highly. It is a shame that Dragon are simplifying their new kits by cutting back on etch, Magic Tracks and clear parts but not cutting the price – that may or may not affect your purchasing decision.

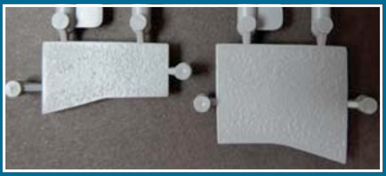
What is in the box though is cleanly molded and with an excellent level of detail that will not disappoint. As always with an in-box review I cannot comment on parts fit and bloopers, but if it is like similar Dragon Stugs that I have built there should be no major issues. ■

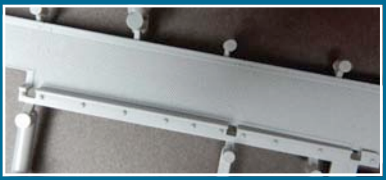
Thanks to The Hobby Company Limited for the review sample
www.hobbyco.net

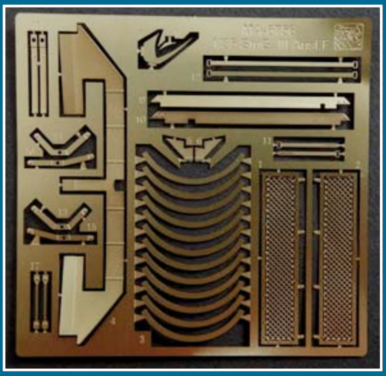

Superb detail on the casemate side.

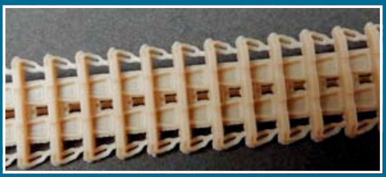

Fine weld & recessed screw detail adorns this kit.


Even the front casement gets the weld treatment.


The armour filler parts for the front casemate.


Detail on the fender undersides.


Etched details.


DS Tracks sadly marred by flash

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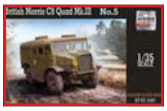
British Morris C8 Quad Mk.III No.5
1/35

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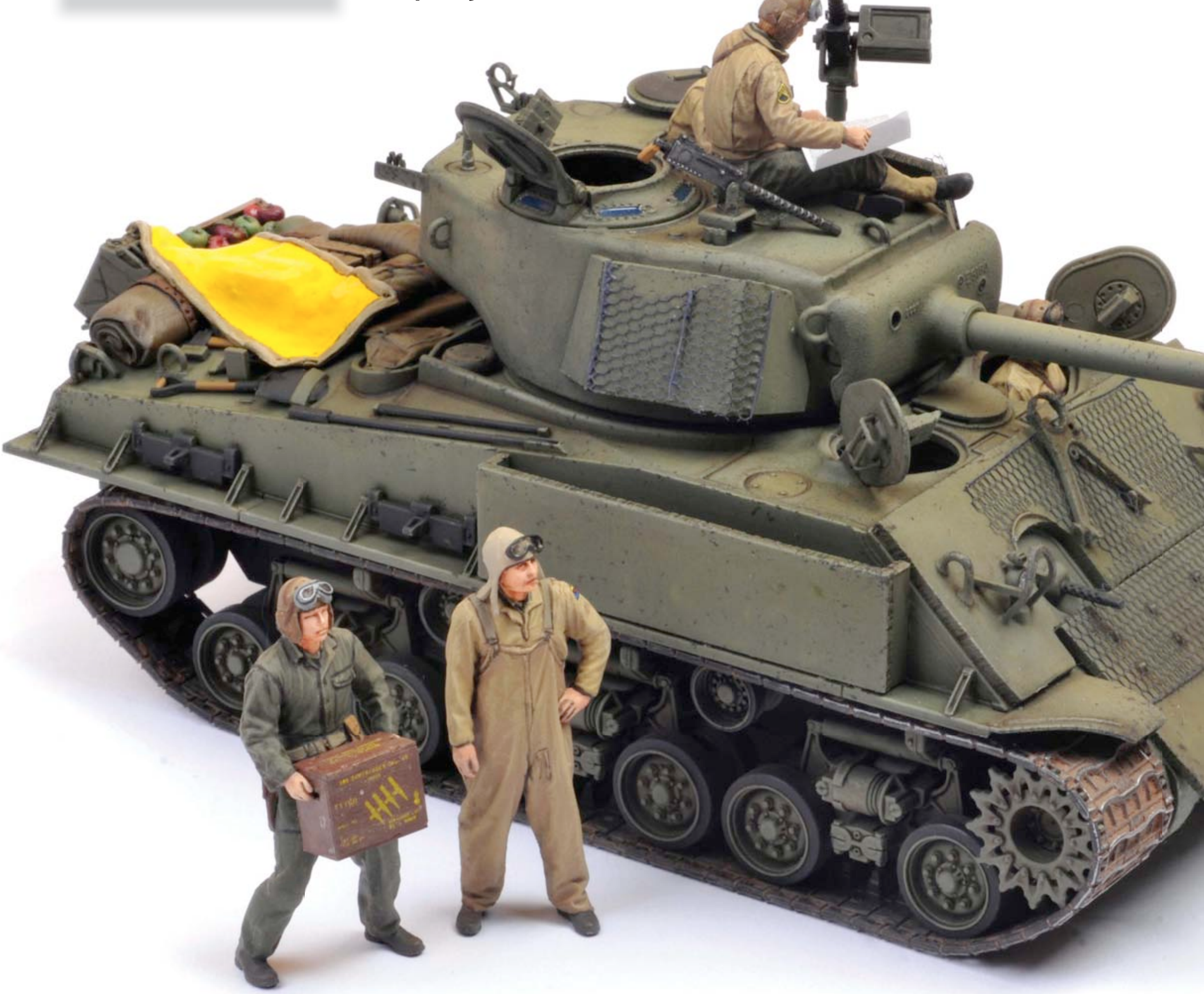
# EXPEDIENT EI

## PART TWO – PAINTING, WEATHERING AND ADDING CR

M4A3E8
SHERMAN
"EASY EIGHT"
EUROPEAN THEATER

**The Editor** finishes and adds stowage and Tamiya's brand new US Army crew figures to his 1:35 scale M4A3E8 "Easy Eight" Sherman.



# GHT

## REW FIGURES

The basic model and its upgraded armour plate was finished, but I had a few more additions planned before painting could get underway.

### STOWAGE

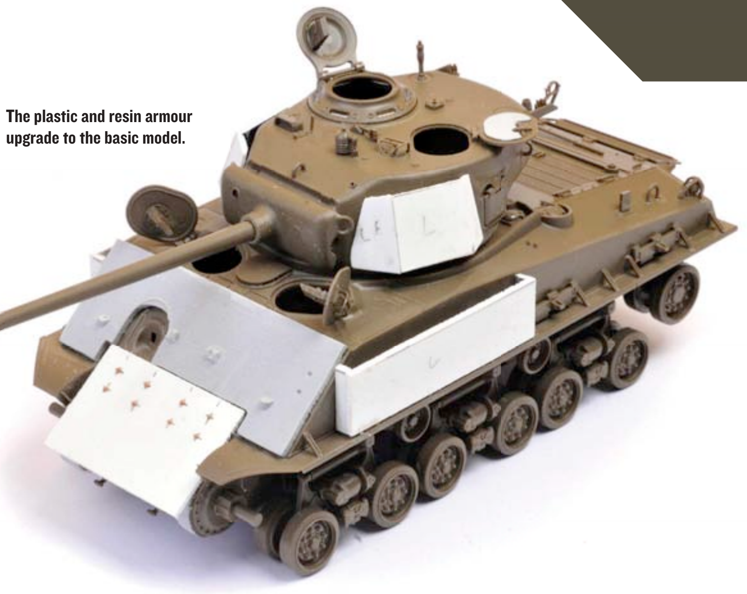
The photo upon which I based the armour upgrade offered a glimpse of stowage on the rear deck. It did not seem to be piled particularly high so I made sure I did not go overboard.

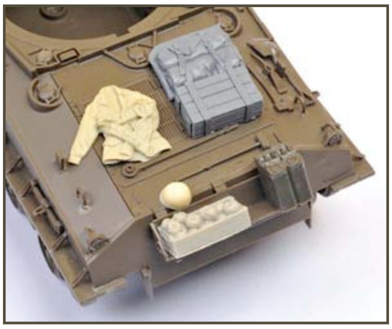
I started with a resin crate and group of packs from two of my Value Gear stowage sets. Value Gear offers a wide range of individual boxes, packs, rolls and other stowage, and I use some of these for most of my armour projects.

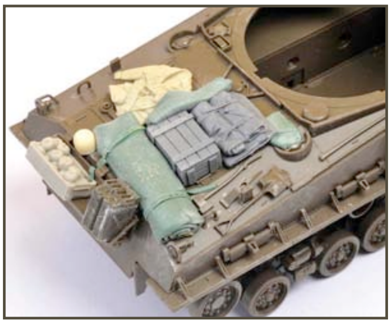
I had also recently purchased a pack of resin boxes with fruit and vegetables cast in place, and another set with flat uniform jackets and coats. One of the sleeves was heated with a hairdryer and bent to match the slope of the hull before it was permanently fixed with super glue.

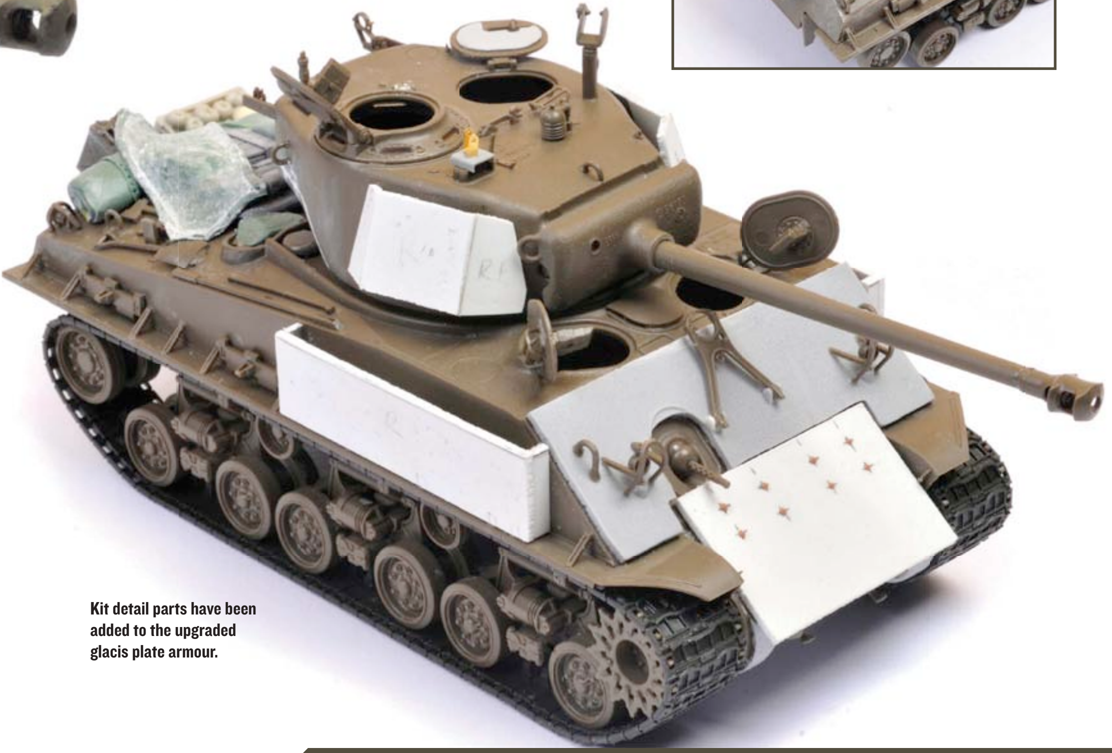
The box of fruit was glued to the rear hull stowage rack. A resin helmet was attached to the back of the engine deck too.

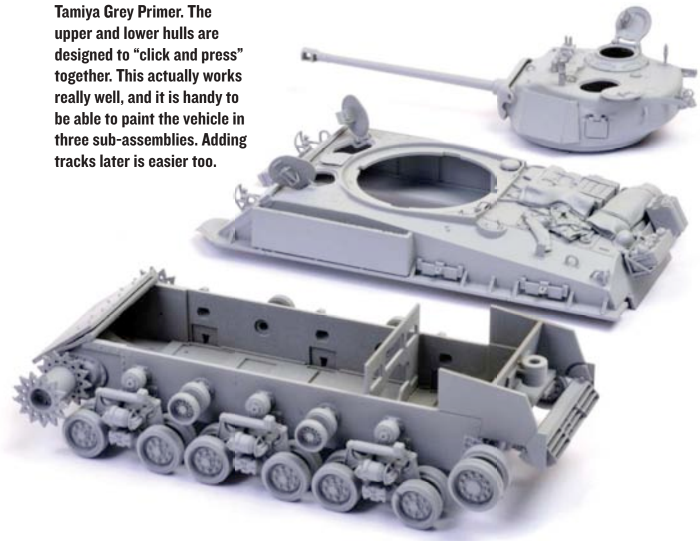
With the solid stowage elements in place, I made up some pliable rolls and tarps from Kneadatite two-part epoxy putty. I added some straps for the biggest tarp and textured a blanket with horizontal stripes applied with the tip of a scriber. ▶


The plastic and resin armour upgrade to the basic model.

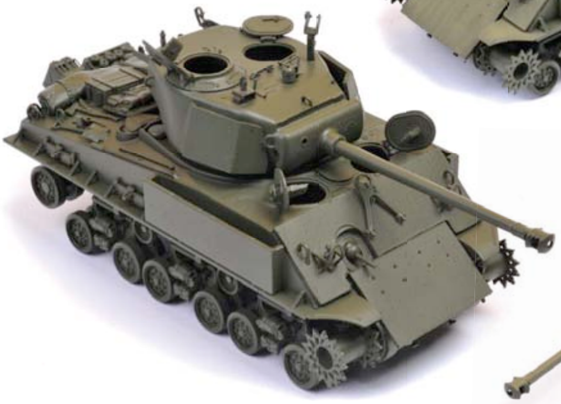

A number of fixed resin stowage items were glued to the engine deck.


Packs and rolls were made from Kneadatite two-part epoxy putty. These were gently pressed into place between the fixed stowage elements, creating a gap-free naturally stacked pile.


Kit detail parts have been added to the upgraded glacis plate armour.



The model was sprayed with Tamiya Grey Primer. The upper and lower hulls are designed to "click and press" together. This actually works really well, and it is handy to be able to paint the vehicle in three sub-assemblies. Adding tracks later is easier too.



A custom batch of Tamiya TS-28 Olive Drab with about 15% AS-15 Tan (USAF) was mixed and sprayed as the base coat.

A paler shade was added in streaks and patches on the hull...

...and the turret.

## AIR IDENTIFICATION

I also decided to add an Air Identification panel to lend some bright contrast to the otherwise monochrome finish.

Air Identification Panels were used in the European Theatre from D-Day until the end of the war as a way for Allied aircrews to distinguish German from US and British vehicles on the ground.

The US Army Panel Set comprised a fluorescent pink/red panel and a fluorescent yellow panel. A blue panel was available too, but this was only used by vehicles behind the front lines. Each of the panels was backed with white, and this could be used in combination with the other colours. Two versions were available – either 12 feet long and 28 inches wide; or a shorter 6 foot long pennant.

After the Germans became aware of the use of the panels, they were rotated in combinations of red, yellow and white according to a schedule that changed on a weekly basis.

I chose yellow this time.

## PAINTING

Some time ago I mixed a custom batch of Tamiya TS-28 Olive Drab with about 15% AS-15 Tan (USAF) decanted into a glass jar. I thought that this medium shade might look interesting on my Easy Eight. Being a hard-wearing Tamiya spray lacquer, this also meant that I did not need a primer coat.

I started with a coat of Tamiya Grey Primer straight from the spray can. This allowed me to check one last time for any gaps or imperfections, especially where the various scratch-built armour plates met. Unfortunately, I forgot to mask off the lovely clear cupola vision blocks before I primed the model. Oh well, next time!

The mixed lacquer Olive Drab base coat was applied with my Iwata HP-C Plus airbrush.

A paler shade was then mixed by adding a little Desert Yellow. This was added in streaks and patches on the hull and the turret.

Next, Sin Industries Filter - P402 Brown for Desert Yellow was applied overall with a soft brush. Once this had dried, I applied a more selective dark brown wash to bolts, edges and other raised and recessed structural features. AK Interactive AK 045 Dark Brown Enamel Wash was used for this.

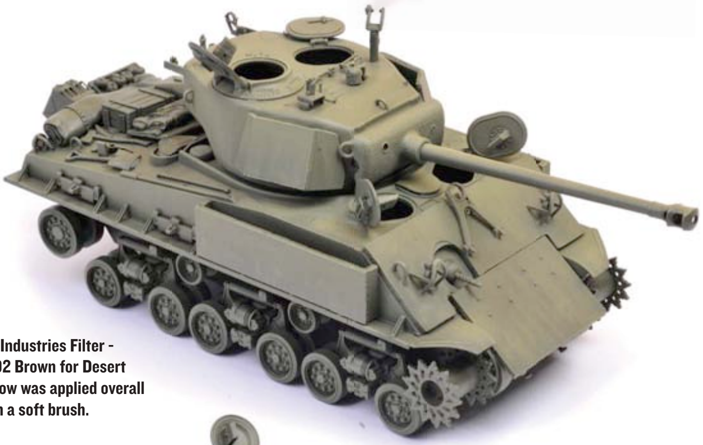
One again waiting for the wash to dry, I readied J's Work Chipping Effect Pen Set. The name is a bit misleading – it is really a selection of sponges attached to the end of a handle. There is a good range of density, so different effects are possible for a variety of applications. The sponge was pressed onto Vallejo Panzer Aces 337 Highlight Ger. (Black) on a paper palette, then the sponge was pressed onto paper a few times to reduce the effect before it was applied to the model. The effect was applied more heavily to edges and heavy wear areas.

At this stage, the tyres of the road wheels, the spare track links, tool heads and loader's hatch head cushion were all brush painted with Vallejo Panzer Aces 337 Highlight Ger, (Black).

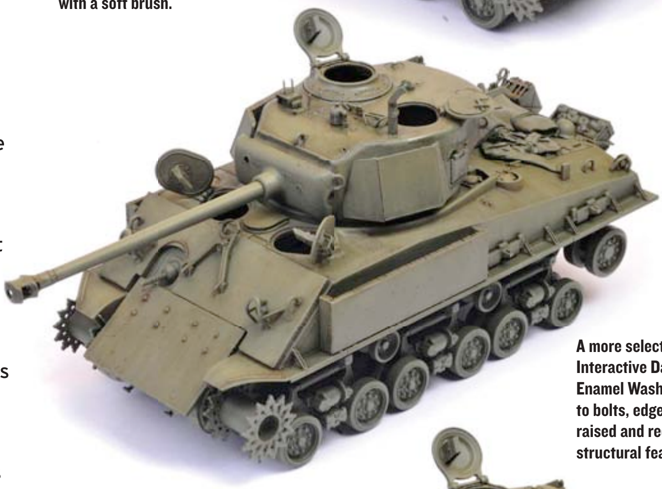
## STOWAGE PAINTING

The packs, tool handles, track block and canvas covers were all picked out with Vallejo acrylics applied by brush.

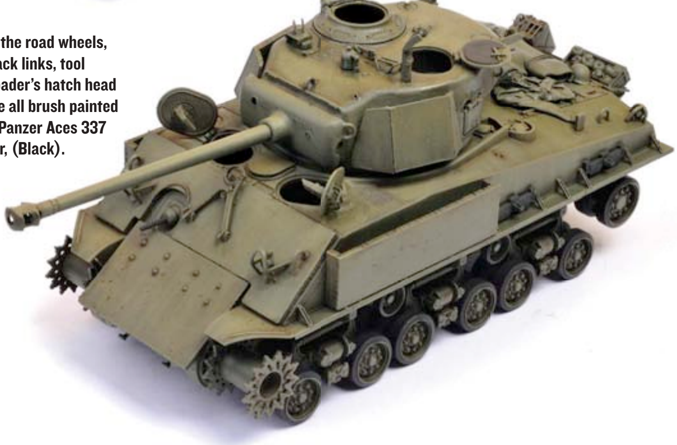
The resin fruit looked like apples to me, although they would be mighty big in real life! I painted the



Sin Industries Filter - P402 Brown for Desert Yellow was applied overall with a soft brush.



A more selective AK Interactive Dark Brown Enamel Wash was added to bolts, edges and other raised and recessed structural features.



The tyres of the road wheels, the spare track links, tool heads and loader's hatch head cushion were all brush painted with Vallejo Panzer Aces 337 Highlight Ger, (Black).

J's Work Chipping Effect Pen Set was used to apply chipping to edges and heavy wear areas.

The kit's full-length flexible vinyl tracks were used.

Tracks were painted with a mix of Tamiya XF-64 Red Brown and XF-1 Flat Black followed by a selection of Mig Pigments and metallic track pad highlights.

apples in various shades of light green and red, with darker green for leaves and brown for stems. I finished these off with a coat of Future floor polish applied by brush.

Next came the Air Identification Panel. As yellow can be notoriously tricky to paint, I started with a base coat of Tamiya White Primer from the spray can, followed by Vallejo Model Color Yellow applied by brush.

The borders of the panels were carefully brush painted brown to complete the paint job.

With the painting now complete, two thin coats of Alclad II Flat Clear Lacquer restored the matt surface and tied in the painting of the vehicle and the stowage.

Weathering continued with a thinly sprayed coat of Tamiya XF-55 Deck Tan on the running gear and lower surfaces, including vertical streaks. This depicts dust.

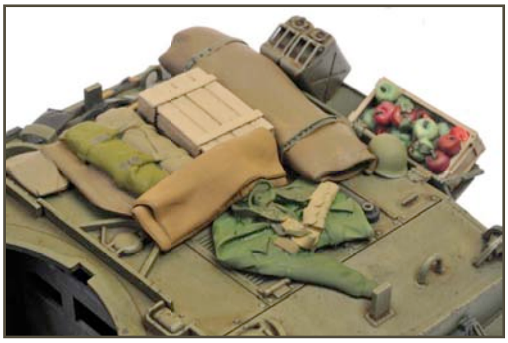
## CHICKEN WIRE

Just about the last task for the vehicle was adding chicken wire to the turret and hull. I did a quick search online and found a perfect product from Dio Dump – 1:35 scale chicken wire!

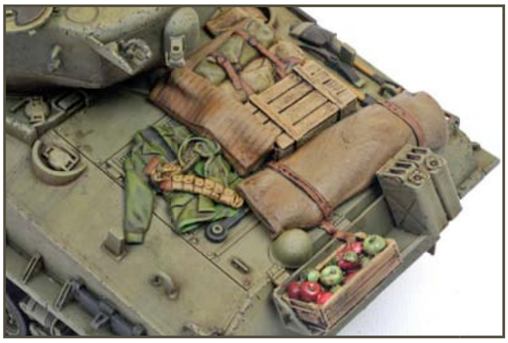
The entire sheet of soft plastic chicken wire was sprayed with Tamiya XF-63 German Grey, although in retrospect I probably should have gone for a paler colour or even Olive Drab to reduce the contrast against the vehicle somewhat.

I then made up paper templates and cut the soft plastic wire from the sheet.

The reference photo shows what appear to be support poles on the wire. These were cut from fine plastic rod and glued to the sections of chicken wire. Each panel was then attached to the hull and the turret with tiny spots of super glue. ▶



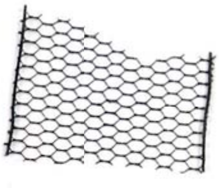
The packs, tool handles, track block and canvas covers were all picked out with Vallejo acrylics applied by brush. It all looks very stark in the base colours.



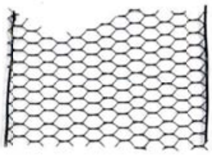
It all looks more natural after weathering after highlighting using dry-brushing and picking out with paler shades of the base colours. Dark washes and dark edging has also been added.

Painting the Air Identification Panel started with a base coat of Tamiya White Primer from the spray can, followed by Vallejo Model Color Yellow applied by brush.

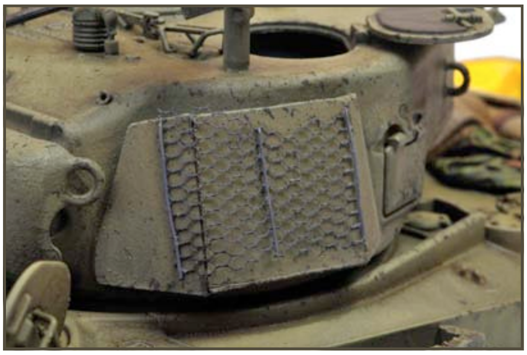
Chicken wire 1:35
DD006
Approx. 18cm x 14cm.
dio dump



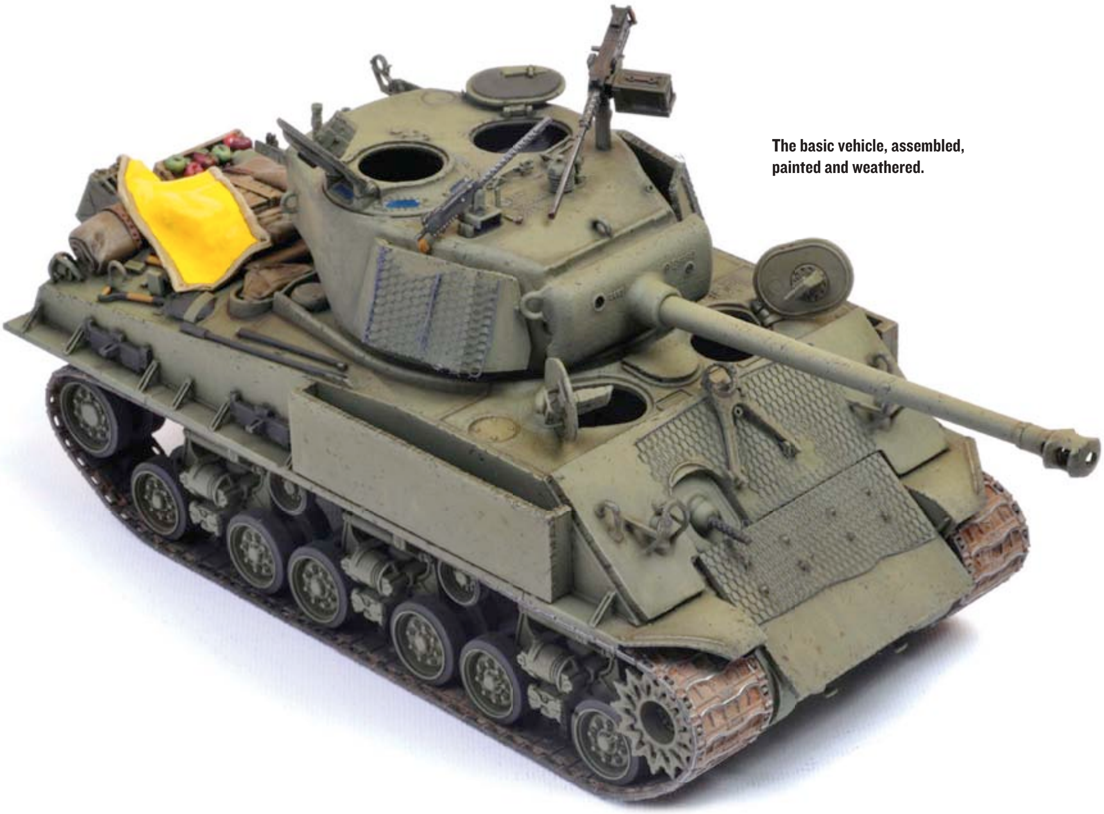
Dio Dump's 1:35 scale chicken wire was just what I needed!



The plastic chicken wire was sprayed, cut to shape and frames added from plastic rod.



The panels of chicken wire were fixed to the model with spots of super glue, very sparingly applied.



The basic vehicle, assembled, painted and weathered.

## CREW FIGURES

Tamiya has released a 1:35 scale U.S. Tank Crew Set (European Theatre) to coincide with their Easy Eight. Although these figures would be appropriate for a wide selection of U.S. vehicles, they are absolutely perfect for the Tamiya 1:35 M4A3E8.

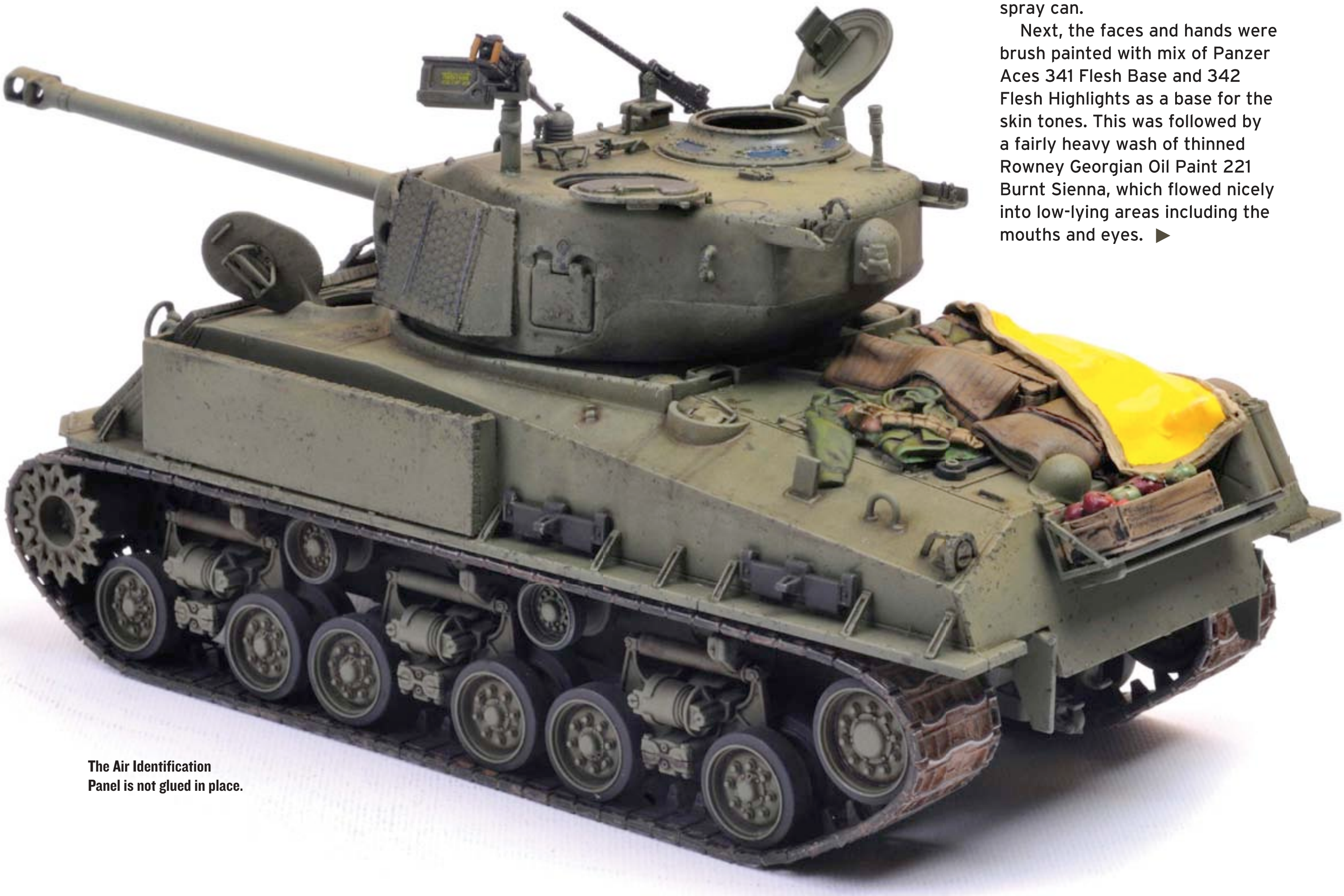
Tamiya figures have been steadily improving over the last decade, to the point where I did not think these guys needed any enhancements beyond careful painting. The poses are relaxed and natural, and the sculpting is excellent. Facial features are very realistic and of course the standard of moulding is everything you would expect from Tamiya.

The set has a few really useful inclusions. These include a selection of goggles moulded in clear plastic (three different styles), and decals for rank and division insignia.

The figures were assembled using Revell Contacta cement, but the heads were not glued in place just yet. The heads were drilled and mounted on toothpicks to make handling easier.

First, all the figures were primed - bodies using Tamiya Grey Primer and heads Tamiya Fine White Primer, both straight from the spray can.

Next, the faces and hands were brush painted with mix of Panzer Aces 341 Flesh Base and 342 Flesh Highlights as a base for the skin tones. This was followed by a fairly heavy wash of thinned Rowney Georgian Oil Paint 221 Burnt Sienna, which flowed nicely into low-lying areas including the mouths and eyes. ▶



The Air Identification Panel is not glued in place.

The crew figure set is available separately. The bodies were assembled with Revell Contacta cement.

The bodies received a grey primer coat. They have been temporarily attached to a paint box using Blu-Tack to make handling easier.

The base uniform colours were from Vallejo.

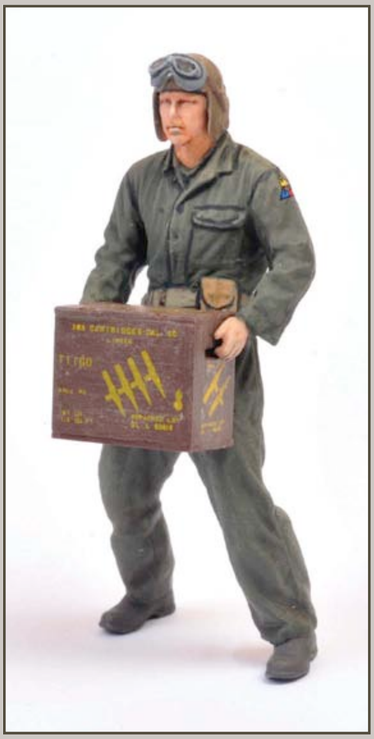
A wash of thinned Mig Productions 502 Abteilung Abt.090 Industrial Earth oil paint was brushed over the uniform colours acrylic range.

Details were picked out with Vallejo acrylics and a fine brush.

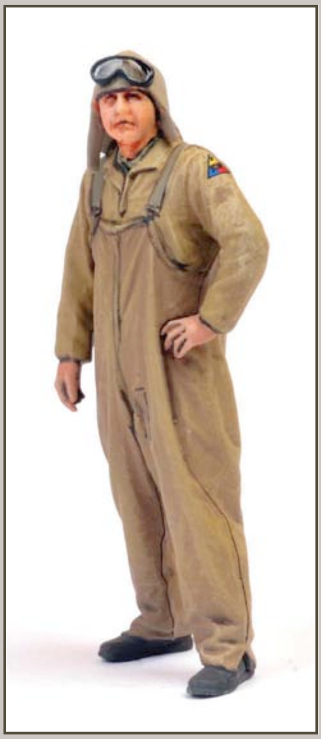
The head and helmet parts breakdown.

The heads and helmets were mounted on toothpicks and painted separate to the bodies.

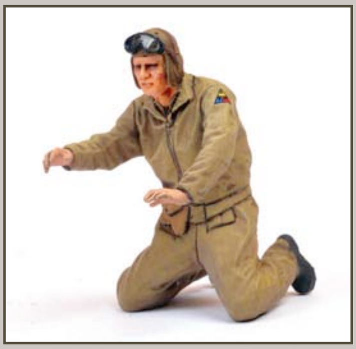
The faces and hands were brush painted with mix of Panzer Aces 341 Flesh Base and 342 Flesh Highlights as a base for the skin tones.



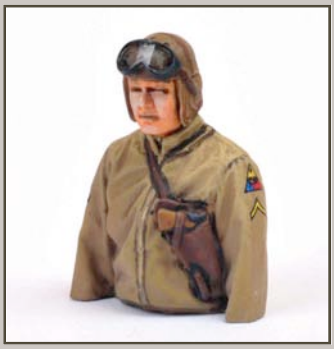
A number of accessory boxes are included with the figure set. The decal markings for the box are supplied too.



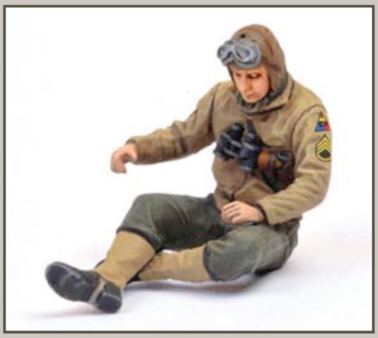
Subtle variations in the colour of the jacket and the overalls.



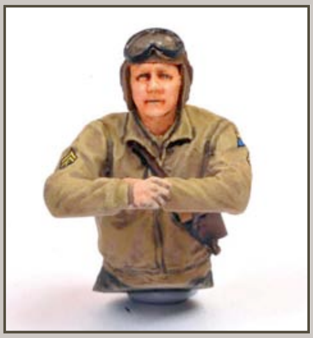
The clear goggles are a very effective idea.



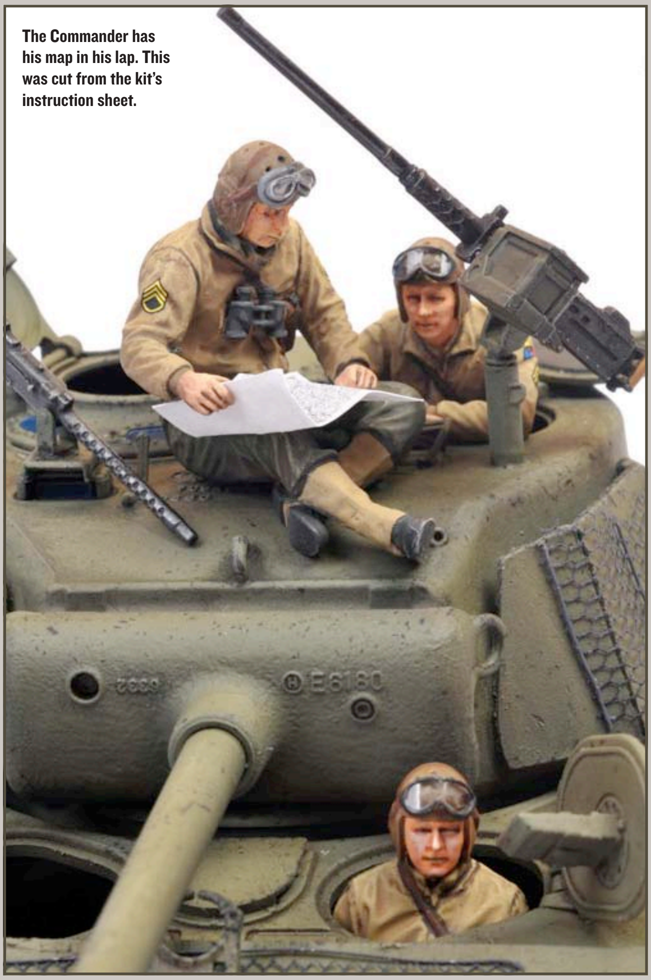
The driver half-figure.



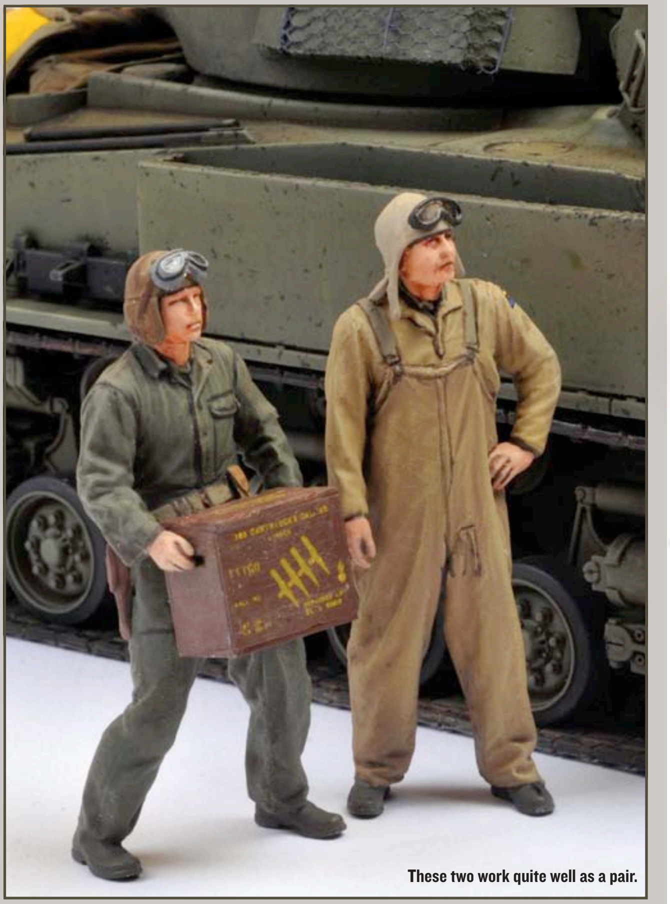
The Tank Commander. Note the division patch and Sergeant's rank insignia. These are decals supplied with the figure set.



The turret-mounted loader half-figure.



The Commander has his map in his lap. This was cut from the kit's instruction sheet.



These two work quite well as a pair.

◀ Painting of the skin tones continued with a range of Vallejo Panzer Aces acrylics, mixed, remixed and reapplied on a trial-and-error basis – no magic formula here unfortunately! I have, however, provided a detailed list of the colours used in the Modelspec section following this text.

The base uniform colours were also sourced from Vallejo's acrylic range. A wash of thinned Mig Productions 502 Abteilung Abt.090 Industrial Earth oil paint was brushed over the uniform colours and allowed to dry before further highlights and shading with more Vallejo acrylics.

The basic painted figures were sprayed with two coats of Future Floor Polish before the rank and division decals were applied to the sleeves. The heads were attached to the bodies at this stage.

The figure painting was completed with two generous coats of Alclad II Flat Clear.

At this point the clear goggles were painted and glued to the heads. In hindsight, I really should have added straps to the goggles. They appear to be miraculously hanging on with no visible means of support as they are!

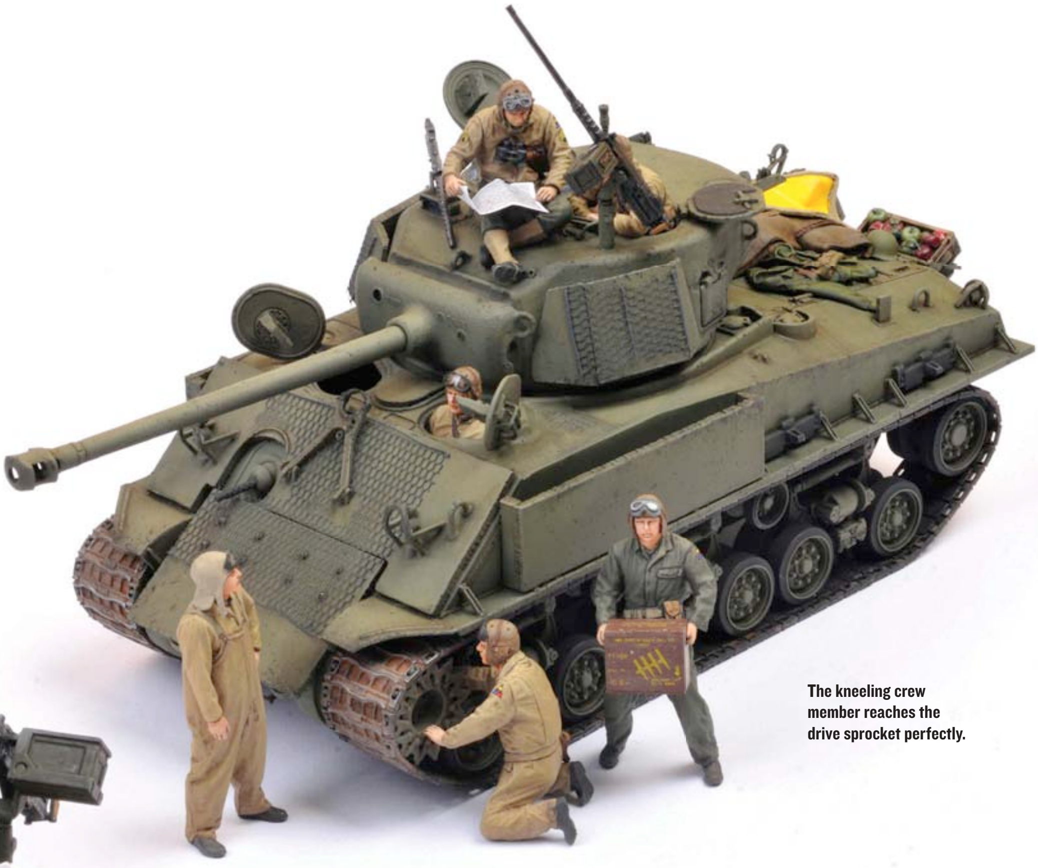
## CONCLUSION

Tamiya has certainly snatched the crown of "Easiest Easy Eight in 1:35 scale", with excellent detail and a very buildable parts breakdown.

Detail aficionados may want to replace the plastic brush guards, and perhaps the .50 cal machine gun, but even without these enhancements Tamiya's new 1:35 scale M4A3E8 will look great straight from the box.

The model will also be a good base for various conversions and upgrades, and the addition of the crew figure set will create an instant diorama.

Highly Recommended. ■



The kneeling crew member reaches the drive sprocket perfectly.

> "The resin fruit looked like apples to me, although they would be mighty big in real life!"

The crew figure set is the perfect compliment to Tamiya's excellent 1:35 Easy Eight.

## Modelspec

**Tamiya 1:35 U.S. Medium Tank M4A3E8 Sherman "Easy Eight" European Theatre Kit No. 35346**

### Accessories and Decals Used:

Tamiya 1:35 U.S. Tank Crew Set (European Theatre) Item No. 35347
Tank Workshop Item No. TWS 350022
.30 cal Machine Gun and Mount from Dragon Kit No. 6183 - M4A3E8 Thunderbolt VII
Parts from Value Gear Stowage Sets
Dio Dump Item No. DD006 - Chicken Wire

### Tools and Materials Used:

Tamiya Extra Thin Liquid Cement
Revell Contacta Professional Cement
Selley's Supa Glue
Kneadatite Blue-Yellow Epoxy Tape
Milliput White Two-Part Epoxy Putty
Tamiya 10mm Masking Tape
Tamiya Liquid Surface Primer
Gunze Mr Surfacer 500
Microscale Industries Kristal Klear
Iwata HP-CH Airbrush
Evergreen plastic sheet

### Paints & Finishing Products:

Vehicle:
Tamiya Spray Grey Primer
Tamiya Spray Fine White Grey Primer
Tamiya Spray Can: TS-28 Olive Drab; AS-15 USAF Tan
Tamiya Acrylics: XF-1 Flat Black; XF-2 Flat White; XF-49 Khaki; XF-57 Buff; XF-59 Desert Yellow; XF-60 Dark Yellow; XF-64 Red Brown.
Vallejo Panzer Aces Acrylics - 310 Old Wood; 311 New Wood; 337 Highlight Ger. (Black)
Vallejo Model Color - 919 Foundation White; 925 Blue; 942 Light Green.
Alclad II Flat Clear Lacquer
Sin Industries Filter - P402 Brown for Desert Yellow
MIG Productions Earth Wash
AK Interactive Enamel Wash - AK 045 Dark Brown
2B Pencil
Crew Figures:
Flesh -
Base Coat: Tamiya White Primer followed by mix of Panzer Aces 341 Flesh Base and 342 Flesh Highlights.
Wash: Rowney Georgian Oil Paint 221 Burnt Sienna.
Variations and Highlights: Vallejo Panzer Aces acrylics 341 Flesh Base; Vallejo Model Colour 919 Foundation White (various mixes)
Uniforms -
Base Coats: Pale Uniform Colour - Vallejo Panzer Aces acrylic 318 US Army Tankcrew mixed with a small amount of 322 Highlight US Tkcr.; Green Uniform Colour - Vallejo Model Colour 70893 US Dark Green.
Helmets: Vallejo Panzer Aces 318 US Dark Green US Army Tankcrew
Straps: Vallejo Panzer Aces acrylic 312 Leather Belt
Wash: Tamiya XF-1 Flat Blackand XF-64 Red Brown mixed with water and Future floor polish.
Variations and Highlights: Base coats mixed together and with Vallejo Panzer Aces 321 Highlights British Tkcr., 322 Highlight US Tkcr. and Vallejo Model Colour 847 Dark Sand and 919 Foundation White.
Borders and Additional Shading: Vallejo Panzer Aces 337 Highlight Ger. (Black).

✓ Superb fit; straightforward build; high level of detail.

✗ A few chunky details (e.g. plastic brush guards).

### Available from

Thanks to Tamiya for the sample www.tamiya.com
Tamiya kits are distributed in the UK by The Hobby Company Limited www.hobbyco.net

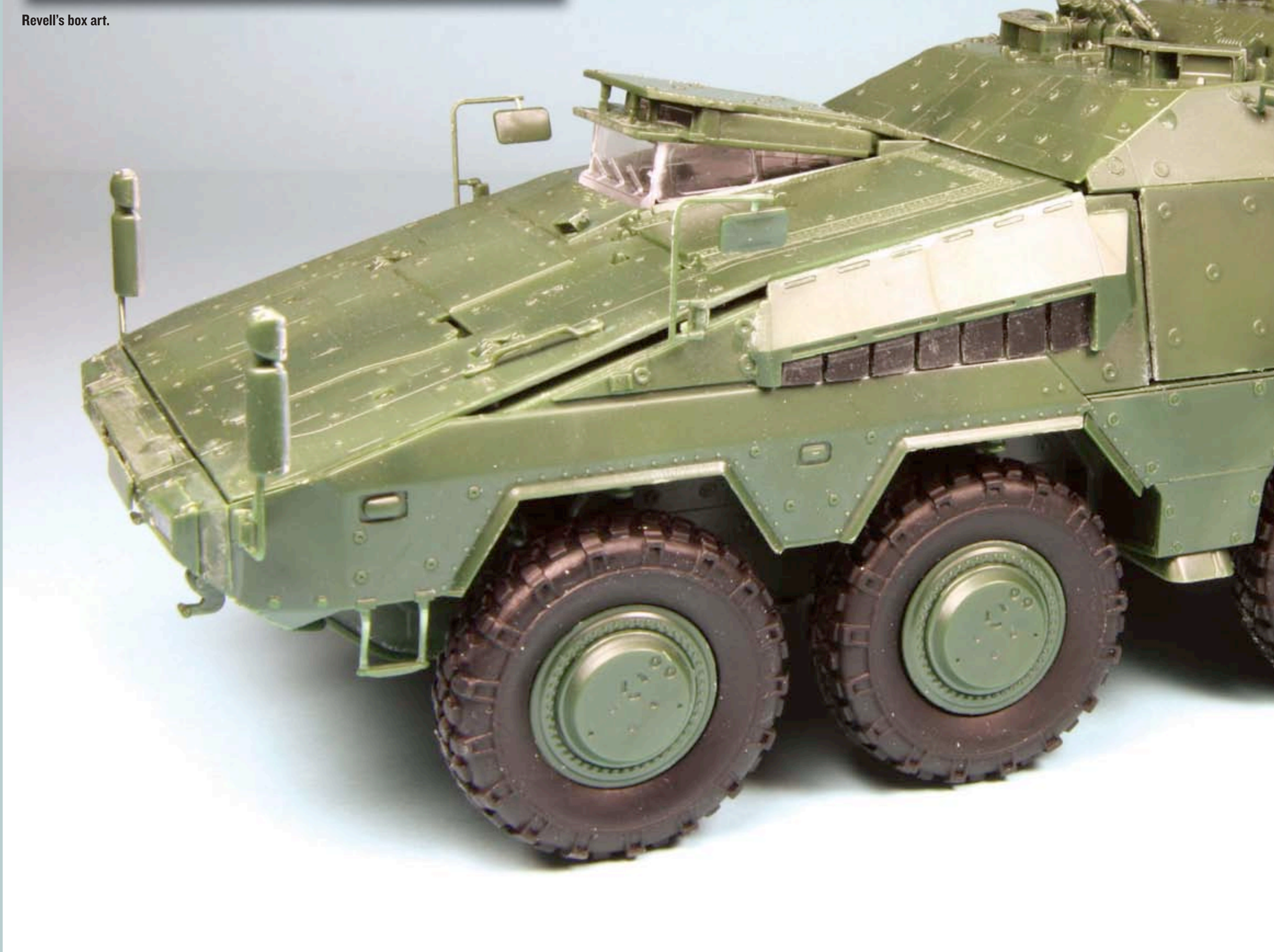
**Rating ●●●●●●●●●○**

# BOXER FROM T

**Andy King** reviews and builds Revell's new 1:35 scale GTK Boxer Ambulance Version straight from the box.

Revell
GTK BOXER sgSanKfz
1:35
Plastik-Modellbausatz
Plastic model kit
Modèle réduit
Modelbouwdoos
22,7 cm
ARTEC
03241

Revell's box art.



# THE BOX

Looking like something from the movie 'Aliens', the Boxer is an eight-wheeled AFV (Armoured Fighting Vehicle) that was produced as a joint collaboration between Germany and The Netherlands. The vehicle may be adapted for a number of different roles through the removal of the rear body or module, such as an armoured personnel carrier, Infantry Fighting Vehicle (with turret), command post, engineer vehicle or ambulance, which is the subject of this kit.

## WHAT'S IN THE BOX

You get seven sprues moulded in green styrene, one clear sprue, a sprue of vinyl with the tow rope and mud flaps, eight vinyl tyres, a decal sheet and a length of wire sellotaped to the instructions.

The parts exhibit some flash and mould seams and there a few sink marks here and there especially on the suspension but these are mainly hidden by the wheels, flash is also present on the vinyl parts (the tow rope really needs replacing). The tyres all have a seam line around the circumference but more importantly all the tyres in my example have some form of moulding defect and best replaced with resin aftermarket items.

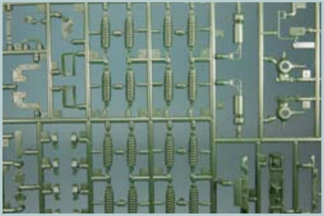
Detailing is okay on the exterior. Interior detail is confined to a very basic driver's compartment but nothing in the rear module. If you want to have the doors open, be prepared for a lot of scratch building.

## GETTING STARTED

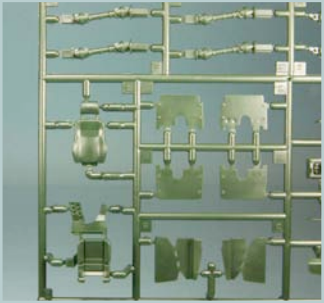
I decided to actually build this one for the review. The lower hull this is made up from four parts and quite tricky to get together. I used tape, Mr Hobby cement and cyano glue to hold it all in place until the glue set.

Moving onto the suspension this is quite complicated plus there is an error on the instruction sheet regarding the location of the smaller rear suspension wishbones (part C15). These should go in the set of holes just above the drive shafts. The front steering has no real positive locating points and was eventually glued with super

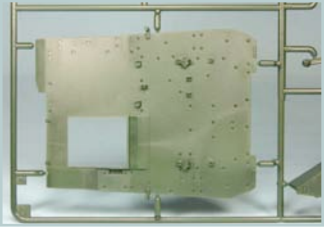
Forward fender parts.



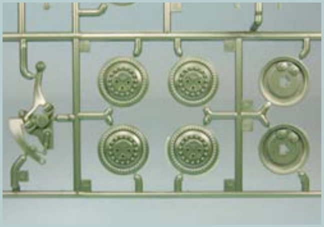
Some of the many suspension parts.



Basic driver's cab detail is provided.

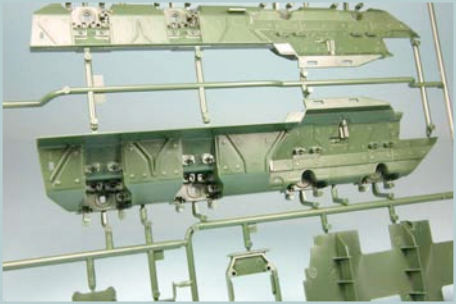


The top of the ambulance cab.

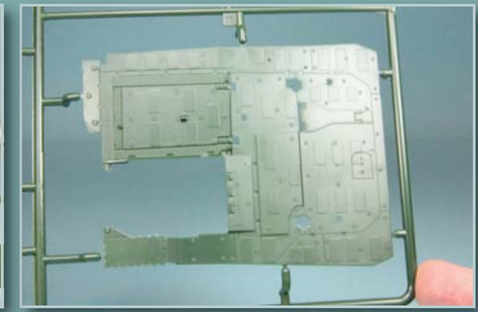


Plastic wheel hubs...

...but soft vinyl tyres.

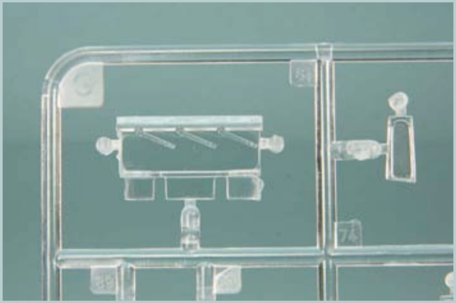


Lower hull parts.



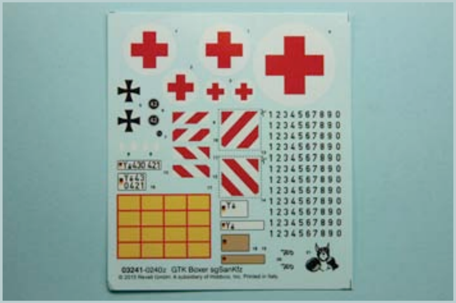
Nice detail moulded to the glacis.

Hull roof with more moulded textures.



The clear parts are a bit brittle – take care when removing them from the sprue.

Flashy soft vinyl parts for the tow cable and mudflaps.



The bright kit decal sheet.

glue for strength. There is no option for turning the wheels unless you embark on some serious surgery. The steering connector rods put up a bit of a fight too due to the sloppy fit of the steering - something to watch when you build yours.

## UPPER HULL

Moving onto the upper hull, the cover for the driver's compartment is mainly made up from clear parts and the fit wasn't good. It needed some cutting and filing to knock it into shape, also the transparencies are VERY easy to crack when removing them from the sprue so it would be better to use a razor saw for this.

The rear superstructure went together well in the end but the lack of positive location points especially for the roof meant that it could sag quite easily so I ended up using a lot of tape to hold it all together until the glue set.

The biggest problem by far is actually fitting the rear module as it just did not want to go in.

I trimmed a bit off all the inside edges, sanded the sides of the bottom of the module but still no chance. In the end I sawed off the sides of the bottom of the module and then it finally fitted although I still needed to clamp the module in place, using liquid glue to soften up the plastic and following it up with cyano. This is not an issue with the vehicle closed up but if you wanted to detail the interior it presents a huge problem. The instructions actually have you fit the rear module at the end of the build but due to the issues above I would do it before.

After the module is in place it's just a matter of adding the rest of the parts to the model and depending on where your vehicle is based you have the option of four warning beacons on the roof of the rear hull. These are just solid lumps of plastic and would have been much better if Revell had moulded them in clear styrene, the same goes for the periscopes. Also the frames that surround them are chunky, the tow rope that fits onto the rear door is too long and there is a huge gap between the front and upper hull and around the lights.

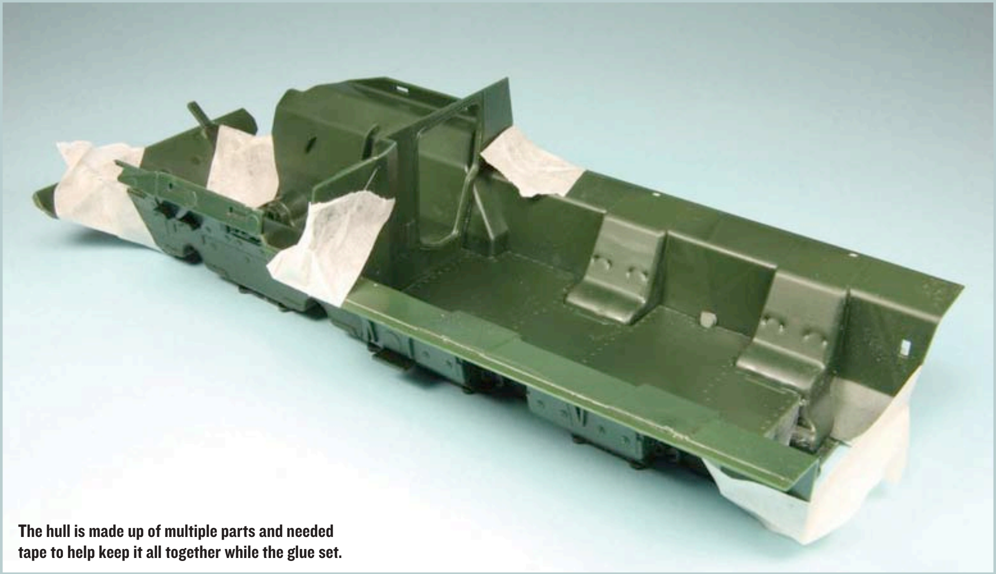
## CONCLUSION

To sum up, this is quite a large model and an interesting subject but detail is pretty basic and the fit of parts is less than stellar.

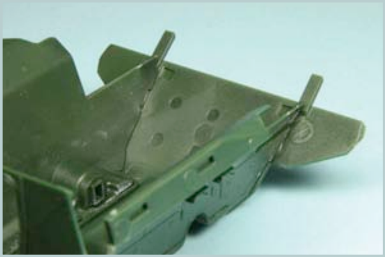
In hindsight, I should have sawn off the bottom of the rear module completely to help get it into place better. It needs etch to jazz it up and at the very least resin wheels as the kit ones are quite poor.

It does provide a decent starting point but needs work to get it somewhere near a great model. ■

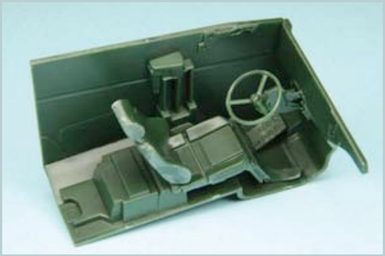
Revell model kits are available from all good toy and model retailers. For details visit www.revell.de/en, @RevellGermany or facebook.com/Revell



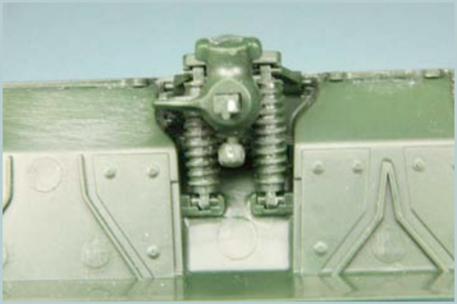
The hull is made up of multiple parts and needed tape to help keep it all together while the glue set.



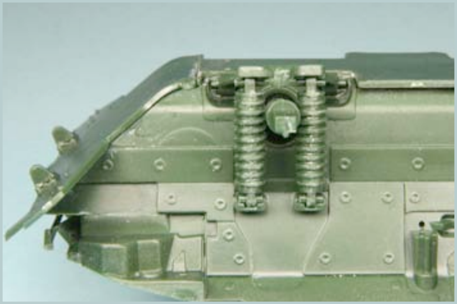
The pin mark really needs removing for a better fit of the side of the hull.



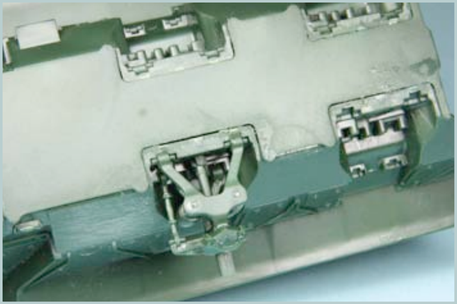
The driver's compartment is basic although you can't see much with the lid down.



This is what the rear suspension should look like as the instructions are not very clear.

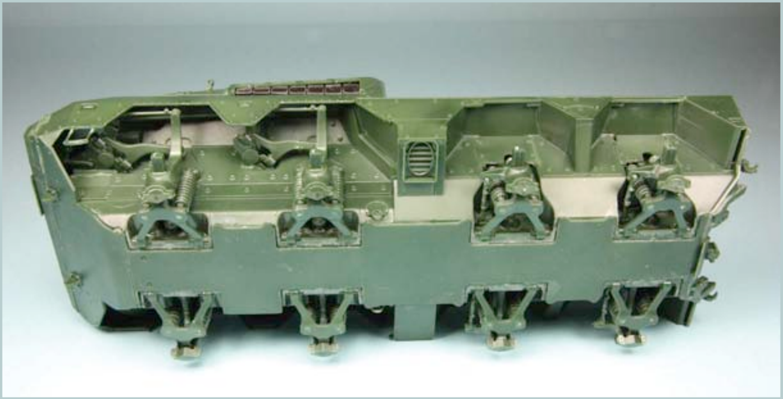


The front suspension.

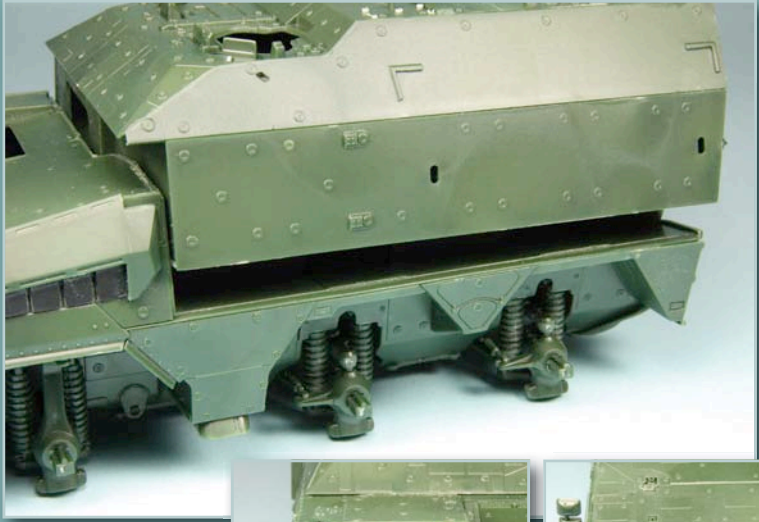


Another view of the rear suspension showing how it fits.

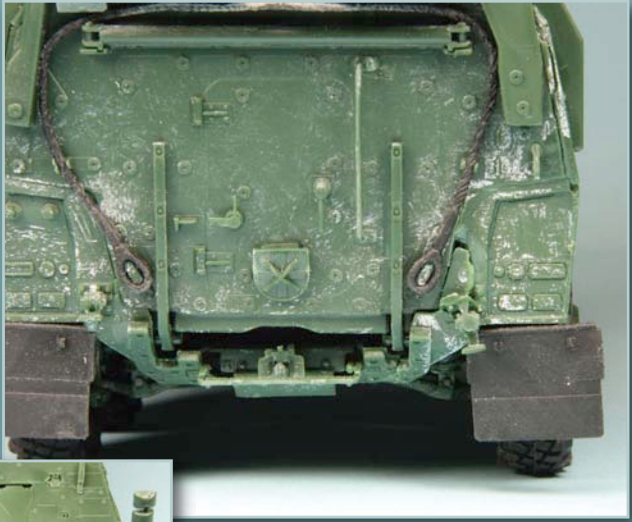
The rear module.



The lower hull completed.



This is how far I got fitting the rear module, if I had pushed it any further it would have broken the model completely.



This shows what happens when you use too much cyano glue. The plastic has 'frosted' due to the glue vapour and part of the rear hull has melted (note the position of the tow hook on the right compared to the one on the left). Oops!

The driver's windscreen with the crack on the right.

The large gap between the hull front and upper armour plate.

The pretty substantial gap between the hull front and rear module,

The lid of the driver's compartment has a huge gap between the glazed side and the upper hull plate.

This shows the solid periscopes and warning beacons plus the over-scale guards around the beacons.

1:35 '39-'45 SERIES
Sturmpanzer Ausf.I als Befehlspanzer
Umbau Fahrgestell Pz.Kpfw.IV Ausf.G
DRAGON Zimmerit
DRAGON

**Graham Tetley** reviews Dragon's latest Brummbar variant including superbly moulded Zimmerit.

# MOBILE BLOCKBUSTER

Dragon have offered a few Brummbars over the years and this kit follows on from Item No. 6596 (the early production Sturmpanzer with zimmerit) with a various bits of the Ausf. G equipped lower hulled kits with zimmerit. Aside from the etched fret, there are no new plastic parts in this kit but what we get provides the appropriate bits to cover the differences.

Dragon gives us their zimmerit coated parts which cover the casemate, the lower hull sides, the upper and lower glacis, the rear plate, the fenders, the driver's position plus several other bits. The Zimmerit itself is very fine, uniform across the vehicle and quite frankly superb.

We have a box full of bits with approximately 685 parts in total although almost a third of the parts are unused. The standard of moulding is faultless throughout with no imperfections at all. Highlights for me are the zimmerit texture, weld detail on the lower hull & casemate parts and the embossed tread pattern on the underside of the fenders. Sadly, we have DS Tracks in the box and whilst they may be satisfactory for some, the plentiful flash, bent guide horns from poor packaging and tendency to split when glued together mean that mine will be replaced.

Two finishing options are given with this kit. Neither have unit markings but simply a set of small crosses.

The lower hull is a single tub that is beautifully adorned with zimmerit – I will let the photos speak for the finesse of this. The suspension units are the simplified 'Smart' type but they retain a high level of detail and are certainly quicker to assemble. Having built the basic Ausf 'G' hull previously in the Ostwind kit I can report no fit problems here but just be careful fitting the rear plate part T1 as I would recommend using the engine deck part to align it.

This version (rightly) doesn't have the steel-rimmed frontal road wheels and comes with the additional bow frontal armour. The etched fret gives us parts for clamps on the bow glacis for what Dragon states is the spare wheel stowage however my references show it to be for a towing rope which isn't included in the kit. We also get the steps on the rear fender & back plate as well as the louvres for the engine vents and chains that attach to the pistol port plugs on the casemate sides should you wish to depict these open.

The use of existing parts means that you have to do some surgery, especially to the main fenders, by removing some areas shaded in blue in the instructions. There are also various holes to fill but nothing major.

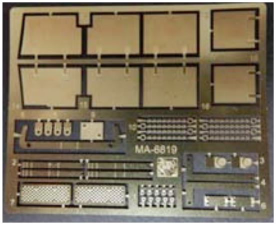
The casemate provides no detail on the interior walls but we do get a detailed gun and mount. The periscopic sight should project through the roof of the casemate so I recommend careful test-fitting to allow this to happen. All of the hatches are positionable but, once opened up, you do notice the bare casemate walls. Consult your references if you want to add an interior but there will be a lot of work needed. The gun barrel has the correct extended armoured guard and some nice screw head detail cast in but, if you look closely, you can see the rifling in the barrel too. Nice!

As an option within the kit you can display it with or without the side shields. The plastic rails are nicely done and certainly more rigid than etched equivalents. As with previous kits, we get etched nickel side shields with mounting holes cut into them but, although nice and thin, they are curved from top to bottom so be prepared to straighten them out before fitting. The instructions in this kit are not too cluttered but, as I have not yet built this, I can't say if there are any errors or not contained within.

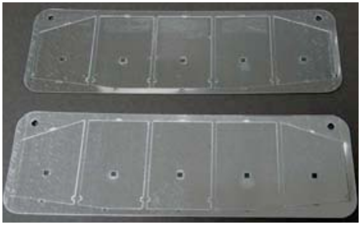
## CONCLUSION

In this kit, Dragon has given us a Brummbar that hasn't been kitted before so that in itself is good. According to my references the main features are present. The only detail-related niggle that I have is in Dragon confusing the etched mounts on the glacis for a wheel mount and not a tow cable, then not giving said cable in the kit. It is a shame about the DS tracks too, but the kit still gets a 'thumbs up' from me. ■

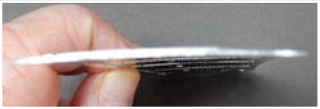
Thanks to The Hobby Company Limited for the sample
www.hobbyco.net



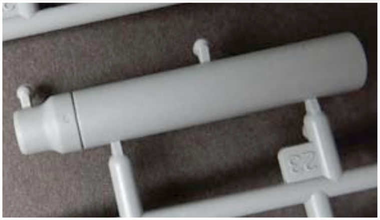
Only one etched fret is included.



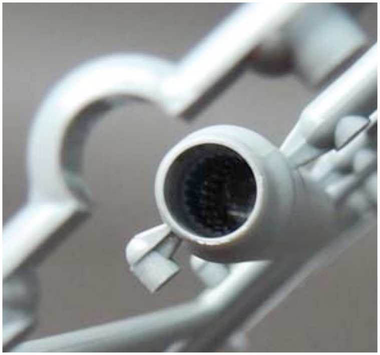
The etched nickel shields...



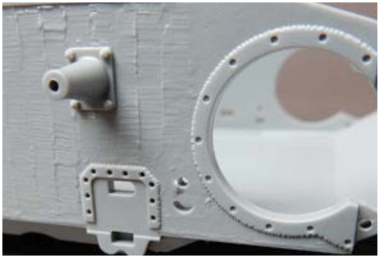
...and the noticeable bend to straighten out.



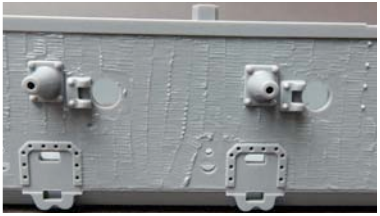
Lovely screw head detail on the gun barrel..



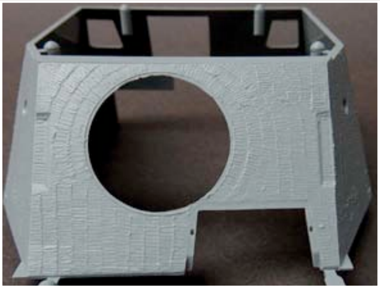
Even the barrel has rifling.



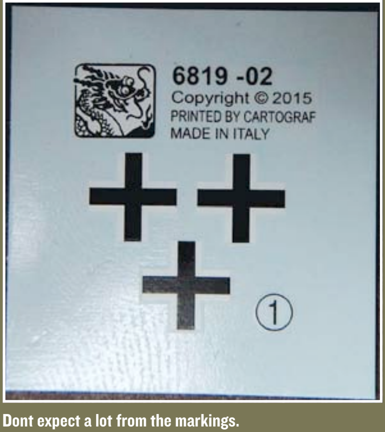
Superb weld & Zimmerit detail on the lower hull.



Wow. Just Wow.



Zimmerit on the casemate. Note the fine mold separation lines.



Dont expect a lot from the markings.

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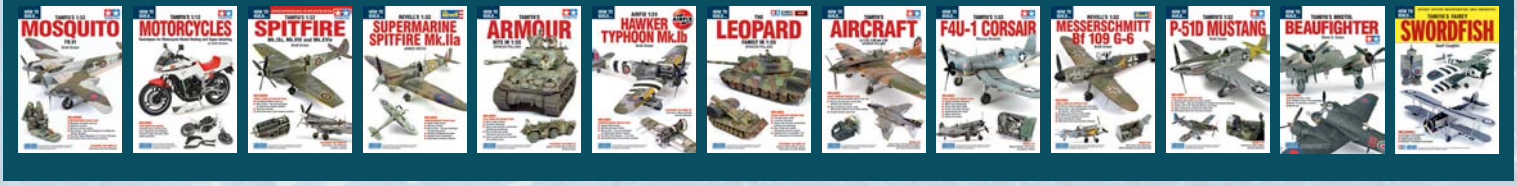
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# THE LAST SUCCESS –

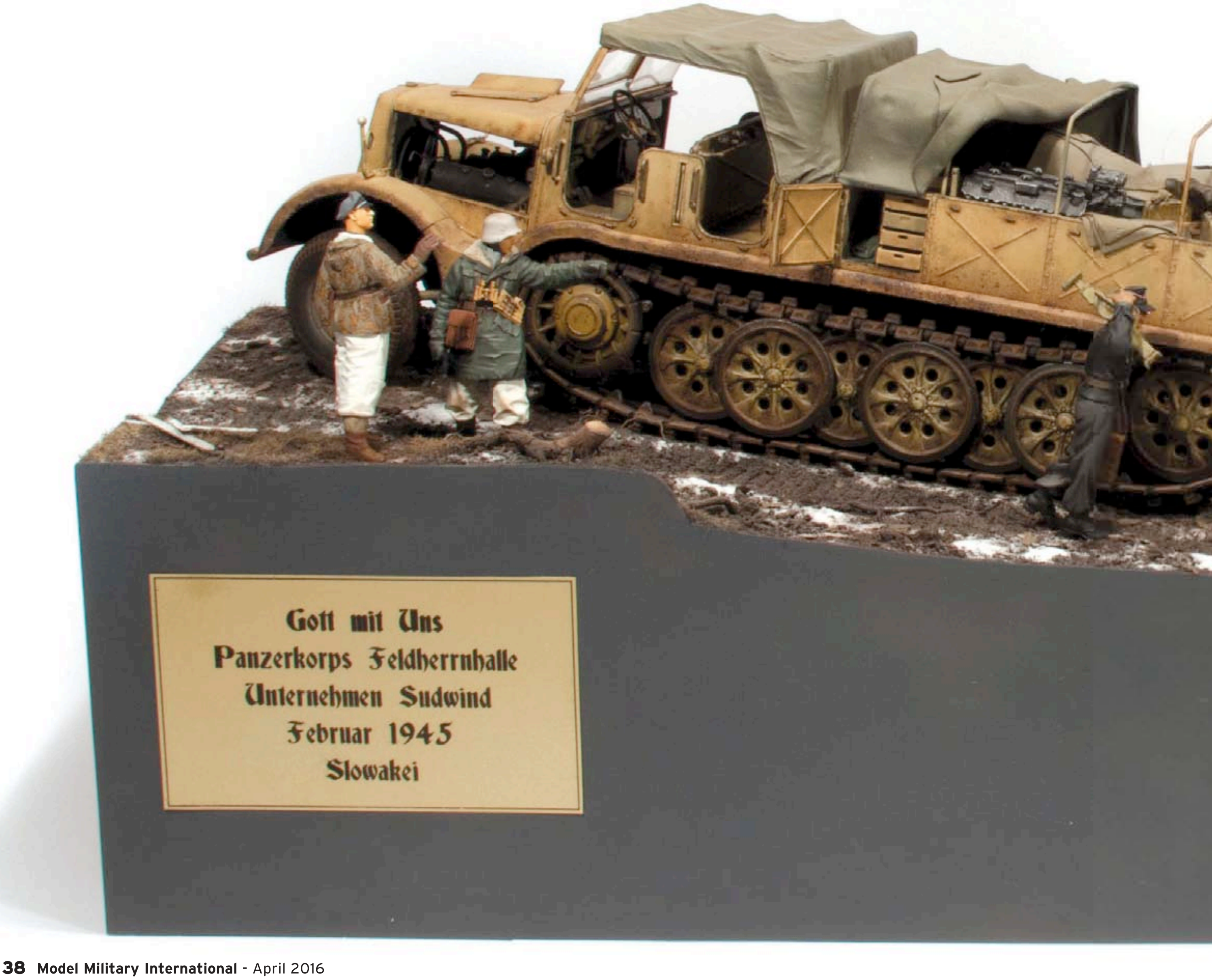
**Vladimir Adamec** creates an evocative recovery scene during a late-war battle on the Eastern Front.

Operation Südwind was one of the last major battles of WWII. The date was February 1945 and the German Army was facing onslaught on all fronts. On the Western Front, Operation Wacht am Rhein (otherwise known as the Battle of the Bulge) ran out of steam and remnants of the vast armada assembled for this venture retreated, abandoning most of its armour and vehicles. In the east, desperate attempts to break the siege of Budapest were swallowing Hitler's last armoured reserves on the Eastern front.

In order to attempt another attack to liberate the city, the German Army had to protect its rear, which was threatened by the Russian bridgehead over the river Hron in today's Slovakia (north of Budapest). To eliminate the bridgehead, Hitler ordered I SS Panzer Korps of his elite 6th SS Panzer army (that was transferred to the Eastern front only shortly after the failed Ardennes offensive) to the southwest Slovakia. The main attack force was composed of the elite formations – 1. SS Panzer Division "Leibstandarde Adolf Hitler", 12. SS Panzer Division "Hitlerjügend" as well as Schwere Panzer-Abteilung 501.

The operation started on February 17, 1945 with the main assault coming from the North and Northwest. Since the Red Army had more than a month to set up elaborate defense in depth, attacking German units had since the first day encountered multiple well positioned defense lines with antitank gun and machine gun positions creating tank „kill zones" along the main expected lines of the counterattack. The Red Army had by this time polished its art of defense and though Wehrmacht was still able to achieve tactical superiority, the cost that Russian army was able to exact on the attacking units was simply too high. The occasions when German army successfully eliminated established Russian bridgehead were by this time rather rare.

One of the smaller units participating in the operation was Panzer-Abteilung 208, which was at the time equipped with combination Pz.Kpfw.IV L/70 (A)



# OPERATION SÜDWIND

and (V). On February 19, Panzer-Abteilung 208 participated in a failed attempt to reach one of the bridges over the Hron in the village of Kamenín. The unit attacked from the west, but approximately 2 kilometres from the village came under concentrated fire from Kamenín in the front and Bruty on the left. Both attacking companies got stuck in a small depression and due to the lacking infantry support had to abandon some of its vehicles. Abteilung has suffered heavy losses and some of the lost equipment was only recovered after the Kamenín was taken few days later.

Operation Südwind in the end succeeded in eliminating the Hron bridgehead and was thus perhaps the last larger successful German offensive in WWII. Of course it could not alter the course of war and the inevitable defeat three months later.

## DIORAMA

For this project I wanted to recreate a scene that could have occurred sometimes during this Hron bridgehead offensive. The diorama would show an attempt to recover one of the abandoned Jagdpanzers by a Sd.Kfz. 18t FAMO halftrack.

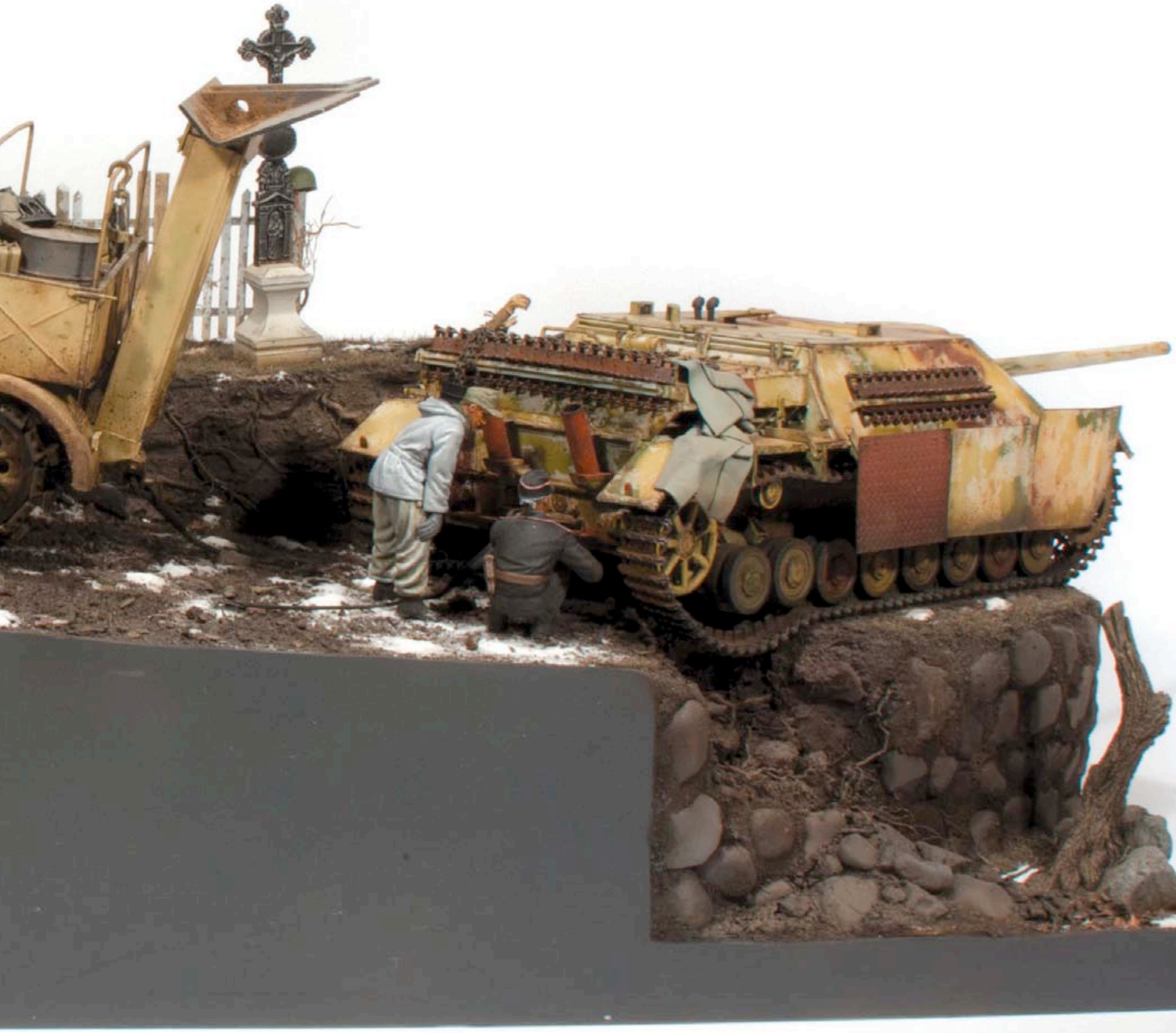
## CONSTRUCTION – FAMO

For any modeller interested in building a FAMO in 1:35 scale, Tamiya's kit still remains the only option. The kit represents the early version of the vehicle, which would not be common at this stage of the war, being mostly replaced with the late FAMO version.  Nevertheless given the Wehrmacht's resourcefulness and ability to scrounge whatever vehicles available, I believe it could still have been found.

Although it is more than 10 years old, the kit's quality measures very well even by current standards and can be built into very nice model straight from the box. However, for this project I wanted to add bit more individuality to the vehicle and used number of aftermarket parts:

- Aber photoetch set (35093)
- Decalstar driver's tilt cover (D-027)
- Tamiya Famo Tank Recovery Accessory set (35243)
- Archer dry transfer instruments (AR35297)
- Verlinden military cargo German WWII set (1693)
- Tiger model design tie-downs (20021)

In addition to the above parts, I have added tarp cover to the cargo bed, which was shaped from the magic sculp and number of stowage items from my spares box and from other smaller stowage sets. ▶



**Tamiya's FAMO** is a great kit straight from the box but it needs a bit more detail if the engine compartment is left open.

## ◀ INSTRUCTIONS? WHO NEEDS INSTRUCTIONS?

In common with many other modellers, I rarely follow instructions when building a model. I prefer to build the bulk of the vehicle first and add small parts and details afterwards. This order of construction reduces the risk of the small parts and photoetch details being knocked off during the latter assembly and painting phases. This process also helps me to visualize the overall shape of the vehicle, select the right type of scenery and position the vehicle on its base. I usually spent rather a lot of time "meditating" about the model, changing the layout and composition of the base before I arrive at the final composition and look.

When building models, I prefer to assemble the model as completely as possible and then move on to the painting and weathering phases. However, the FAMO is one of those models that, due to its complexity and extensive visible interior, really has to be built in number of subcomponents. Careful planning is required to minimize number of these subcomponents and thus the amount of assembly required once the components are painted. In this project the planning was further complicated by the number of additions used, requiring careful study of multiple instructions sets. The following subcomponents were built separately:

- Chassis and running gear
- Wheels and tracks
- Engine and engine compartment
- Drivers' and crew cab
- Cargo bed
- Recovery spade

In addition, a number of small parts (windshield, front engine grill with front fenders, engine hood, steering wheel, tilt cover and tarps) were kept separate as well until the latest stages of the build.

The chassis and running gear were built almost straight out of the box. There is very little visible of them once the wheels are in place and cargo bed mounted, so I preferred to focus on the more visible parts of the kit.

## ADDING DETAIL

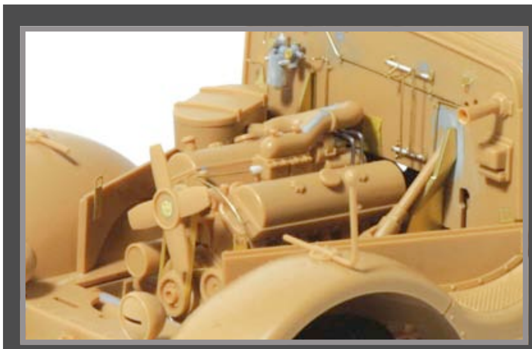
The engine and engine compartment are areas that require additional detailing if they are to remain visible. I have added details using photoetch parts, replicated wiring with fine wire and some minor scratch building. I repositioned air cleaner on the right side of the engine and accordingly adjusted its attachment to the carburettor. Moulded-on fan belts were replaced with the ones made from Tamiya masking tape.

I have kept the wheels separate to make the painting and weathering easier. In the case of the FAMO their final look is important as they are very prominent and take large portion of the visible surface of the model. There's very little detailing to be added to the wheels, which are very nicely moulded. Since I wanted to build a vehicle showing signs of wear and tear I added some damage to the rubber rim of the wheels. This was done using an X-acto knife, file and coarse and fine sandpaper.

The cab section was also improved with additional photo-etched parts, primarily rifle holders and tool brackets. Moulded-on details on the instrument panel were sanded off and replaced with photoetch parts. Few ejection marks had to be eliminated using Mr Surfacer and careful sending on the inner parts of the cab walls, as these could be seen from outside. Resin tilt cover required careful dry fitting and reshaping of both the kit's and cover parts to achieve good fit (Dremel tool came handy). I also removed the moulded-on tie-downs around the cab doors (these were used to mount the door covers) and replaced them with the resin ones from Tiger Model Design.

The same modification was also done on the cargo bed. Construction of this part is quite simple, I just paid attention to the different positioning of the parts since I was using Tamiya's Famo Accessory set.

Photo-etched parts were used to replicate the brackets used to stow



Extra detail included photo-etched parts, fine wire and some minor scratch building.

The model was built in separate sub-assemblies to make painting easier.

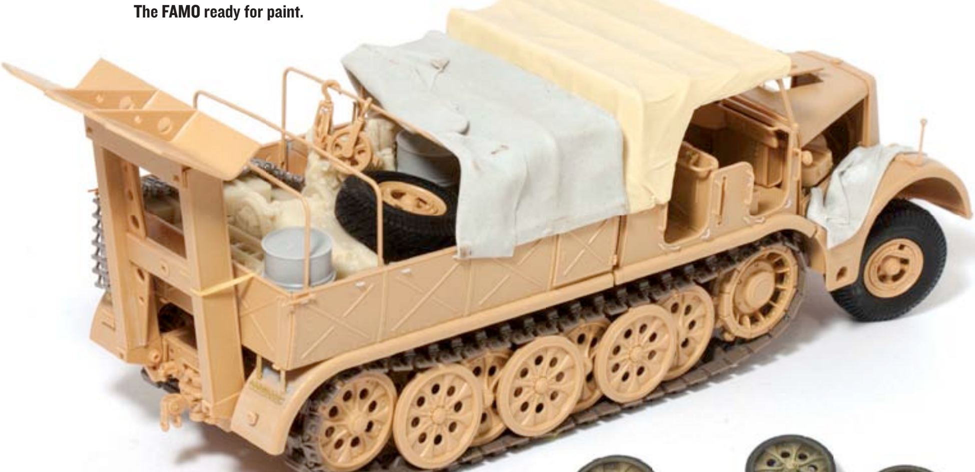
A tarp was laid onto the passenger's side mudguard.

Decalstar's driver's tilt cover was added to the front of the vehicle.

folded metal frame for bed cover as well as rear gate locks. I decided to mount only the first three metal frames since I intended to fill the cargo bed with number of stowage items. The remaining two frames would be added after all the stowage items are in place. This way I could use the front three mounted frames to shape the tarp cover so that it copied shape of these supporting metal frames.

The tarp was made from two sheets of rolled magic sculp, one for the top part and one for the front section facing the cab.

In order to fit both the cab and cargo bed tarps I had to sand of the details on the rear of the cab cover and to thin the bed cover sufficiently as the kit is not designed with sufficient space to accommodate these additions.



The FAMO ready for paint.

The base colours are Tamiya acrylics.

## PAINTING AND WEATHERING

I started by priming the parts with Tamiya's White can primer and followed by pre-shading with mix of Tamiya's Flat Black and Flat Brown. The exact mix is not important, I add brown to black to make the colour chromatically closer to the Dark yellow base colour.

For the base colour I used 1:1 mix of Tamiya's Desert Yellow and Flat White. In order to add depth and to create impression of vehicle that was long in service and was repainted number of times, I then airbrushed layer of hairspray followed by another layer of Dark Yellow. For this layer I added 10-20% more white to the paint mix to create contrast with the base colour. I then "chipped" this lighter layer on the larger surfaces - engine hood, fenders, cab walls, cargo bed walls and rear gate, using a stiff brush and water.

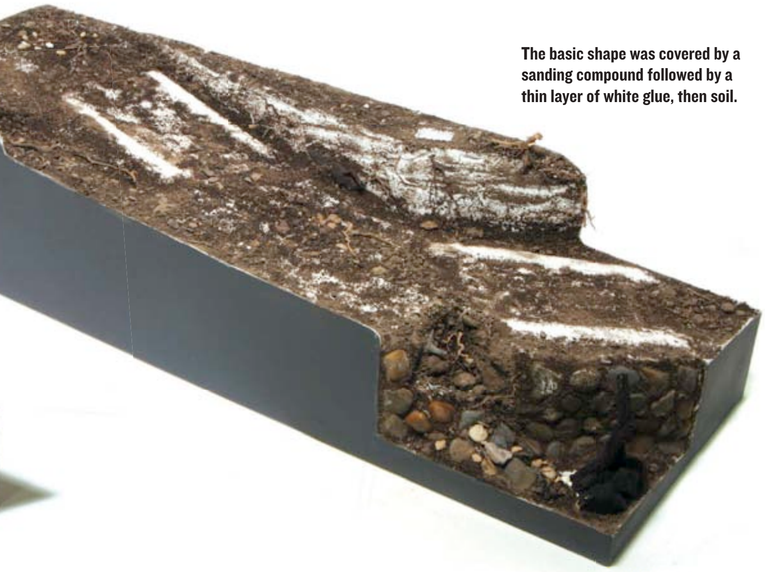
In general, I prefer to use lighter base colours as subsequent oil filters will make them darker and it is always easier to darken the light colour during the latter weathering phases. I have also added about 10% of Tamiya clear to the paint to achieve the right finish. I avoid too gloss paint finish as it makes paints resistant to the effect of the oil filters, which are applied next.

For filters, I use Winsor & Newton artist oil paints and Sansodor thinner of the same brand. The filter mix is extremely thin, it is essentially a thinner with just a touch of the paint. For light surfaces such as German Dark Yellow I use filter mixed from the Burnt Umber and a touch of Black. The filter is to be absorbed in the paint and add depth to it, blends different colours and shades and darkens them, creating the effect of a paint finish that was exposed to the weather elements for some time. Usually I add additional layers of filter during the later phases of weathering to blend different effects and achieve the right level of contrast.

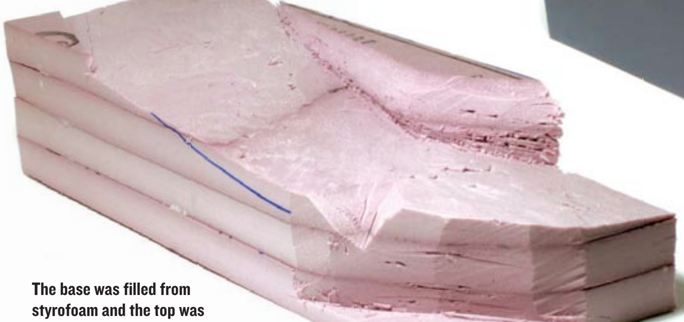
After filters I added highlights using dry-brushing. I use this technique in very controlled manner, applying the effect with small size brush (size 0 – 1) on a small area one at a time. I only apply highlights on raised surface details and edges to create contrast against their background. Again I used Winsor & Newton's Naples yellow colour, which I find to be suitable shade for highlighting German dark yellow surfaces (it is rather muted shade of yellow giving good representation of light yet faded yellow colour).

In very similar method I have added chipping. For this I focus on the areas, where the actions and movements of crews as well as impact of environment would most likely created damage – edges, corners, etc. Again, the effect is built very slowly, paying attention to each single area where it is applied. For chipping I use mix of Burnt Umber and Black oil paints again. I started with light chips and kept adding until I reached the desired effect. The advantage of using oils for chipping is that if the effect is excessive, you can immediately wipe it with a brush dampened with oil thinner and apply it again. For chipping of a flat surfaces as well as stronger effect I use sponge – I cut a small piece (5-10 mm) and using tweezers dab the paint on the surface.

Chipping effect applied this way usually results in high contrast between the chipping and underlying base paint, which does not look natural. To correct this I use following technique: I apply small dots of Burnt umber oil paint on the area where the chips were. Using moist brush I blend the ▶



The basic shape was covered by a sanding compound followed by a thin layer of white glue, then soil.



The base was filled from styrofoam and the top was shaped to form rough contours of the scene using utility knife.

◀ paint with the surrounding area until the oil paint is spread so thin, it's almost hard to distinguish. This way I create effect where the original base coat has just a slightly darker, rusty shade with gradual transition to the surrounding area. When applying multiple weathering effects using oil paints, make sure to let the kit dry for at least 24 hours between the steps.

### CONSTRUCTION – JAGDPANZER IV

Dragon's Jagdpanzer IV (nr. 6397) is a fairly new kit and as such is very well detailed with the highest quality of moulding. Construction of the vehicle was actually one of my most enjoyable builds as it was very straightforward with almost no trouble spots along the way. I have ordered aftermarket photoetch set, but apart from the tool holders on the rear hull, most of it was left unused as the kit's details are very good.

I added a few improvements - kit's side skirts which are moulded in one piece were replaced with the individual ones made from styrene sheet. I have also added spare track link stowage brackets on both sides of the superstructure as this can be seen on a number of historical photographs.

I also replaced kit's Magic Tracks with the Friul tracks and added two tarps at the rear of the hull.

### JAGDPANZER PAINTING AND WEATHERING

The vehicle was painted and weathered in similar way as the FAMO.

For the base paint I have added bit of Tamiya Flat yellow into the mix. My plan was to paint the Jagdpanzer in Brown/Green soft-edge camouflage, but since I wanted to avoid the risks of painting this camouflage in free hand, I had to come up with an alternative solution.

I sketched the camouflage pattern on a sheet of paper and cut it out. I then attached the paper mask on the model using small bits of white-tack to mask the pattern, so that there was about 2 mm space between the model surface and the paper. I have repeated this process twice - for the brown and for the green layers. When airbrushing the brown/green areas, it is important to keep the direction of the airbrush perpendicular to the surface of the model to achieve the right transition between the base colour and camouflage.

This was followed by the application of the white wash winter camouflage using hairspray method.

Weathering consisted of the application of oil washes and chipping as described above.

### DIORAMA BASE

For this diorama I was looking to build a small base depicting a rural setting, a typical country road that can be seen around villages in the Southern part of Slovakia. I wanted to keep the base relatively simple, but to add few visual points that would complement the vehicles.

The base walls were made from a styrene sheets. Corners were strengthened with a styrene square rod attached along the inside of the joint. The base was filled from styrofoam and the top was shaped to form rough contours of the scene using utility knife. Top edge of the styrene walls were cut to copy these surface contours, allowing for the final ground layer to be added.

Surface of the base was then covered with the sanding compound from Home depot. I only applied thin layer to avoid large cracks once the compound dried. To provide a stable base for the vehicles I have cut out two small planks from balsa wood for each model, and pressed them into the compound (has to be still wet) so that the vehicles would sit straight on them without gaps between the tracks and the planks.

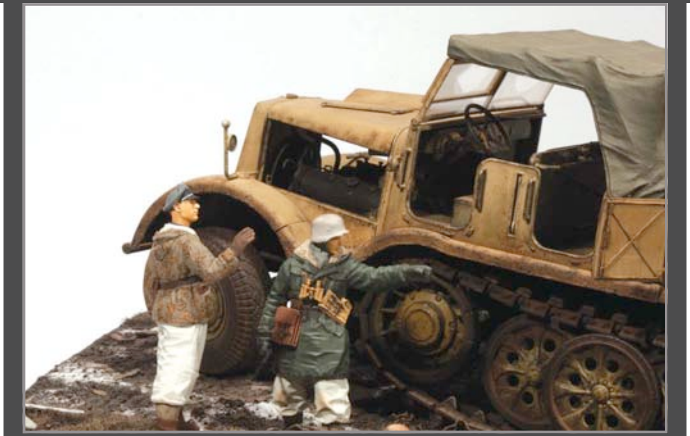
While still wet, the top of the compound was then covered with thin layer of white glue mixed with water (applied with large brush). Fine soil (collected from my garden) was then sprinkled on the top. Since the compound is still wet, it can be shaped to achieve the exact shape desired. Using tracks from a spares box pressed into the ground I have replicated track marks.

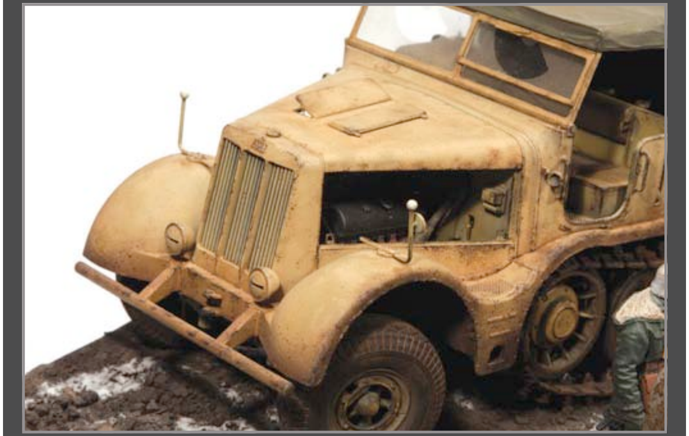
I have added few more items sourced from my garden - small grass and bush roots were inserted to add realism to the sunken road scene and recreate the erosion effect on the slope.

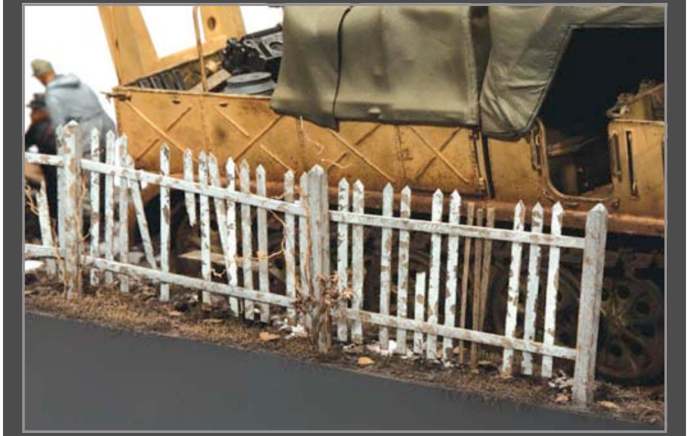
The stone wall supporting the road was build using small flat stones that were pressed into the drywall compound and the ground between the stones was then covered the same was as described above. The tree trunk is from the Armand Bayardi series. Grass is artificial one, it was cut very short and attached to the base with white glue thinned with water.

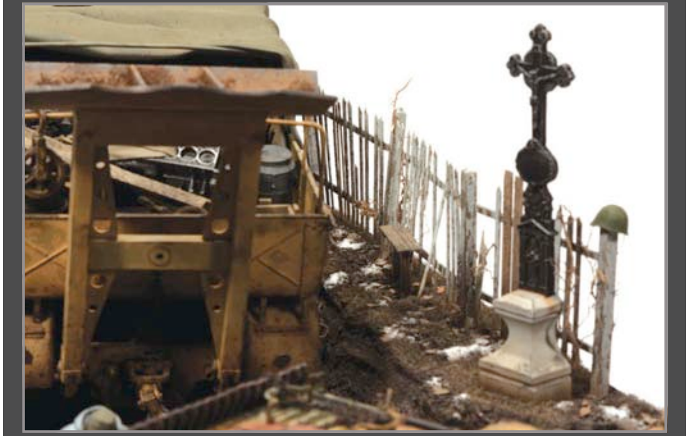
### PAINTING THE BASE

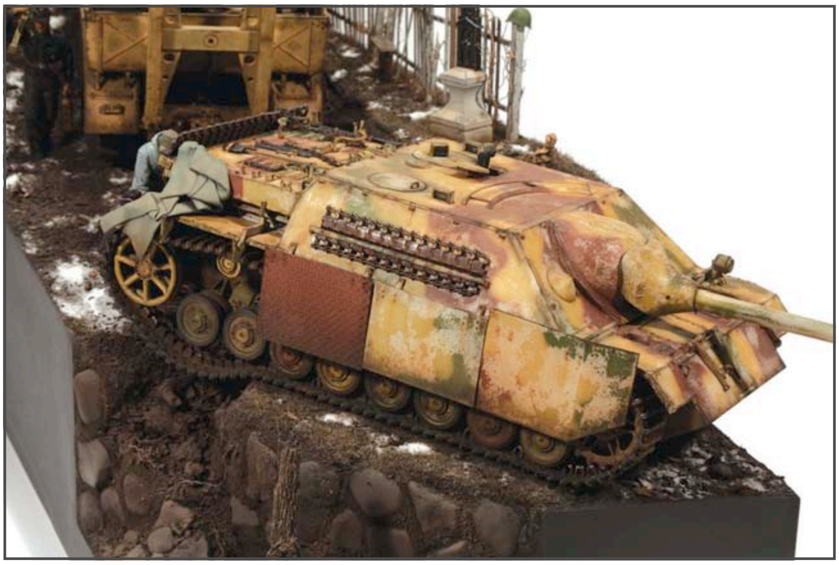
The painting of the base started with airbrushing a mix of Tamiya's Flat Black and Flat Brown over the whole surface. This effectively acts as preshading, it is important that the surface is completely covered. On top of this layer I have airbrushed earth-coloured shades of brown, primarily using


Figures were supplied by my friends Tom Karnas and John Bayes.

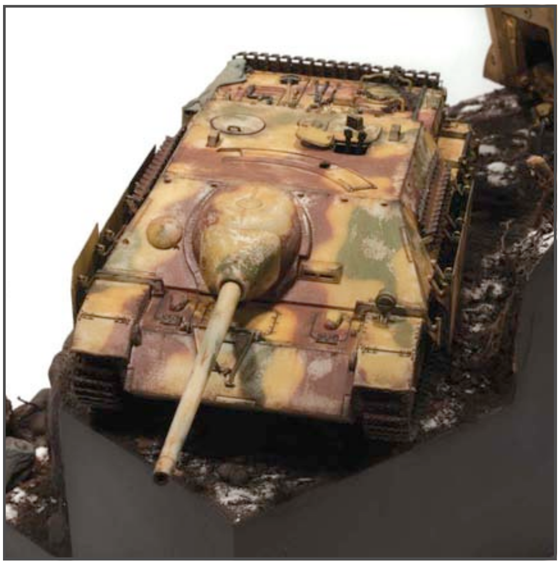

Weathering of the vehicles consisted of the application of oil washes and chipping.


The wooden fence was made from small wooden strips weathered with multiple layers of Mig's wood ageing solution.


The column with the cross is from Plus Model.



Dragon's 1:35 scale Jagdpanzer IV was a pleasure to build. Fast too!



The brown and green camouflage colours were painted with the assistance of paper masks.

Khaki Drab, Flat Brown and little bit of Flat Earth. I have tried to avoid making the ground too light as the scene is set in February and the frozen ground would be rather dark. Due to this I have also kept the colour variance limited to achieve realistic finish. When applying these colours, I kept the direction of the airbrush at the right angle to the surface, so that areas beneath the stones and other surface elements would remain dark, creating natural shadows. I have also used drybrushing of oil paints in limited, localized way.

Foliage was added using Plus models scale leafs, combining the maple, oak and linden variety. These were individually attached with super glue and painted with oil filters and subsequently airbrushed with acrylics to blend them with the ground.

The wooden fence was made from small wooden strips weathered with multiple layers of Mig's wood ageing solution. Chipped paint was replicated using artist's masking solution and airbrushing the fence planks with Flat White. Masking was then removed with toothpicks and tweezers.

The column with the cross is also from Plus models and was painted with acrylics. Upper part was painted in flat black and drybrushed with Citadel Boltgun metal acrylic.

To replicate snow, I have decided to use Baking soda. It was attached with white glue mixed with water. This mix was first brushed or airbrushed on the ground and then covered with baking soda.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks go to my friends Tom Karnas and John Bayes, who have generously provided some of the figures used in the diorama. ■

## Mini Modelspec

**Tamiya German 18 ton Heavy Half Track FAMO. Kit No. 35239**
**Dragon 1:35 Jagdpanzer IV L/70 (V). Kit No. 6397**

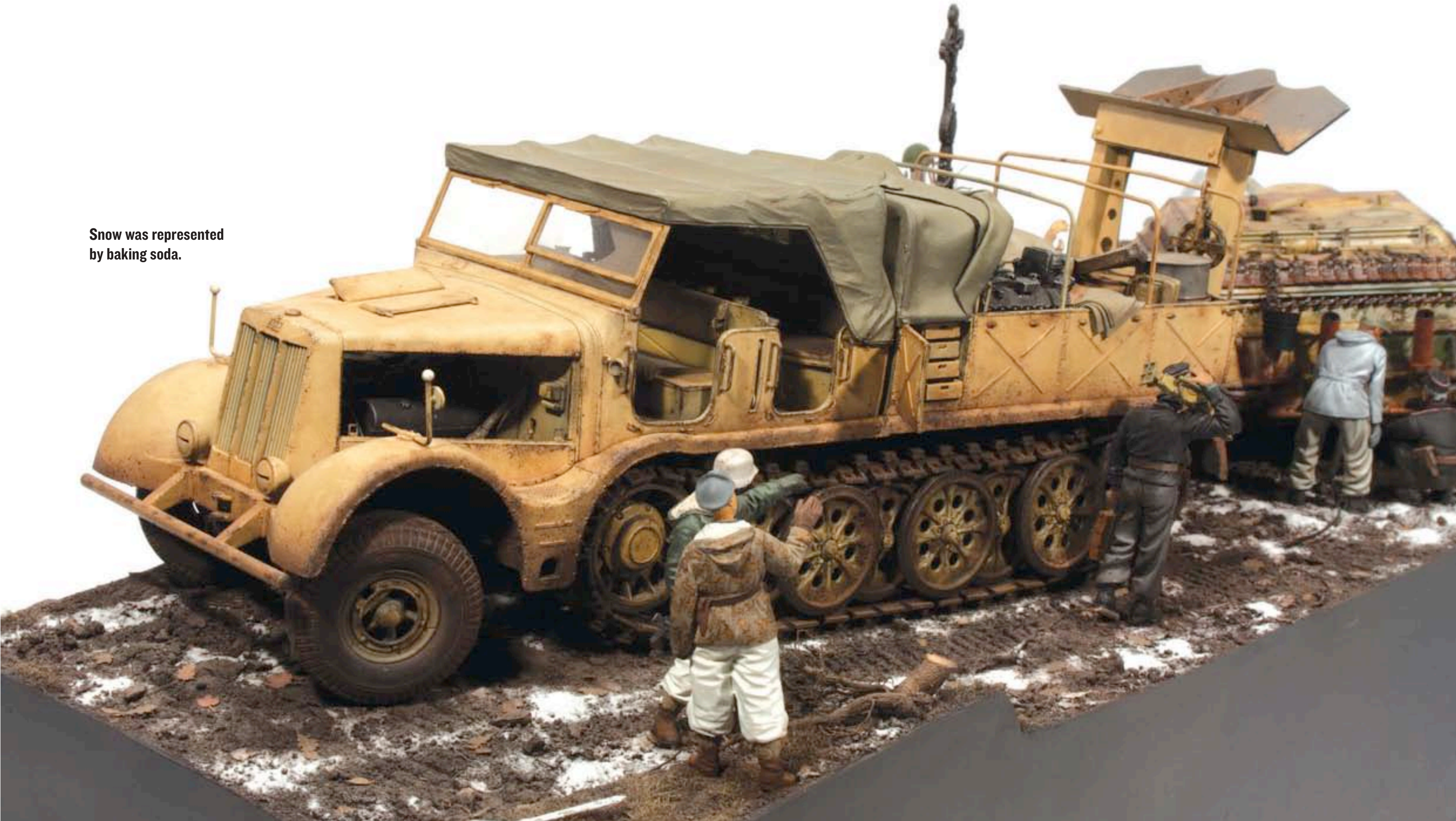
✓ Both kits feature a high level of detail and excellent kits.

✗ Some extra detail required if panels are left open.

**Available from**

Tamiya and Dragon kits are distributed in the UK by The Hobby Company Limited www.hobbyco.net

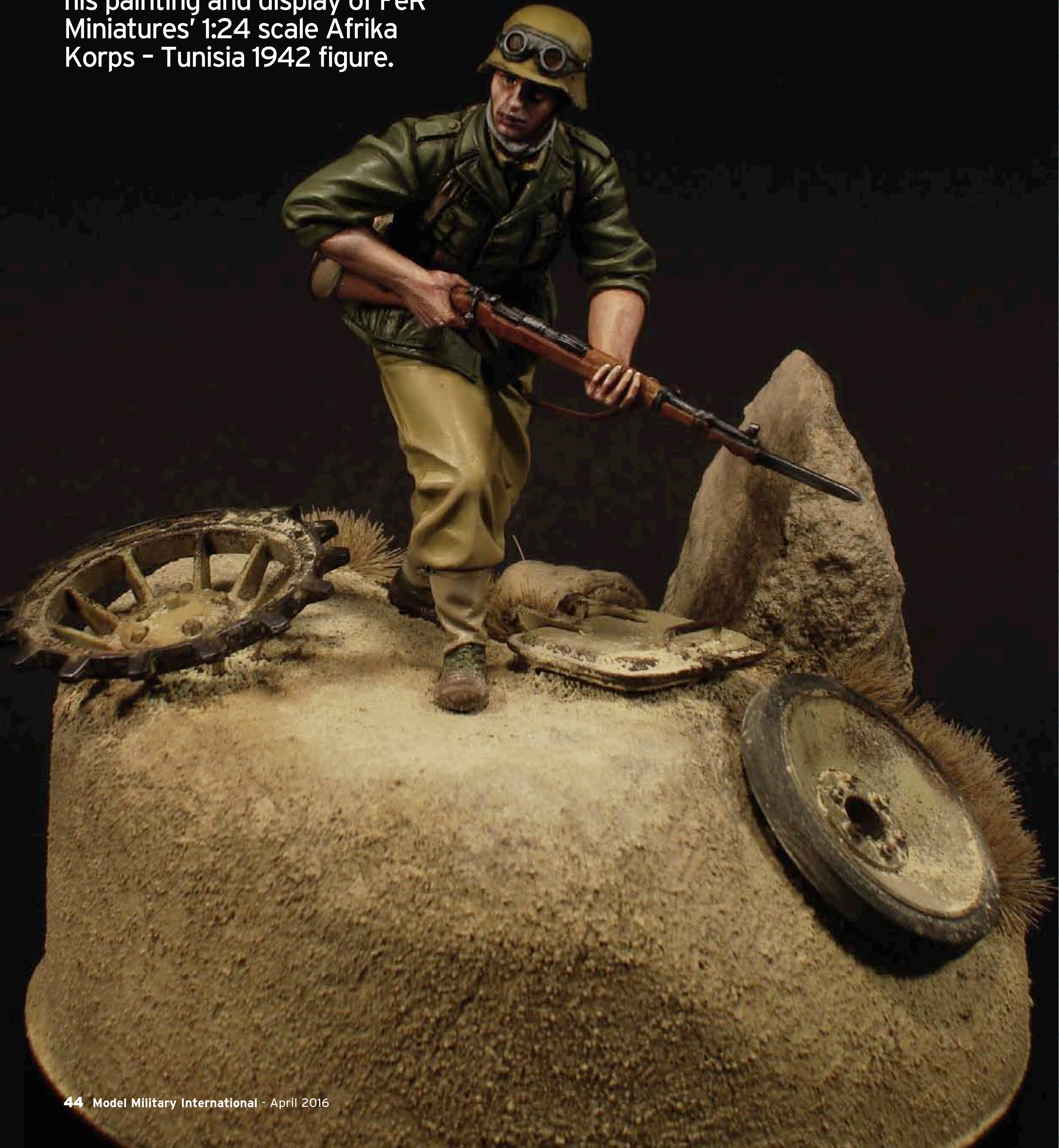
**Rating** ●●●●●●●●●○



Snow was represented by baking soda.

# 1:24 SCALE ACRYLIC FIGURE PAINTING AND DISPLAY
# AFRIKA KORPS – TUNISIA 1942

**José Brito** takes us through his painting and display of FeR Miniatures' 1:24 scale Afrika Korps – Tunisia 1942 figure.



I have been modelling for the last 35 years and have already built hundreds of scale models. But from time to time, there is a project with a special meaning on my workbench.

This figure from Fernando Ruiz Miniatures (FeR) is one of those projects. Why? Because the figure was kindly offered to me by my friend Fernando Ruiz. Also because it was offered to me in the Scale Model Challenge show 2015, in Netherlands (an event with a special meaning to me), and because, alongside a bust in the scale 1:10, this would be my first figure entirely painted in acrylics.

FeR figures is already a well-known brand in the scale model figure world. Their figures, besides being very original, offer flawless resin casting and the poses are anatomically very well made.

## THE FIGURE

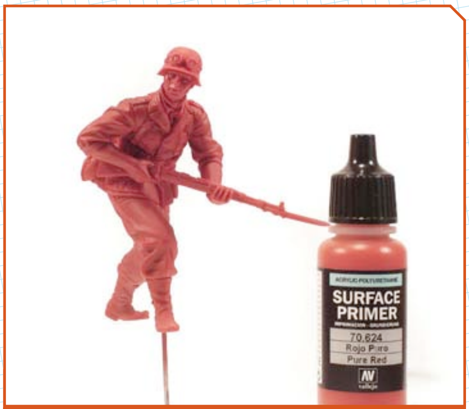
This figure, the Afrikakorps- Tunisia 1942 in 1:24 scale, was sculpted by Eduard Pérez and the box art painted by Jaume Ortiz. With these credentials you can already imagine the quality of the sculpt and the quality of the piece presented in the box-art!

FeR
Presents
Afrikakorps, Tunisia, 1942
Sculpted by: Eduard Pérez
Painted by: Jaume Ortiz
Scale: 1/24

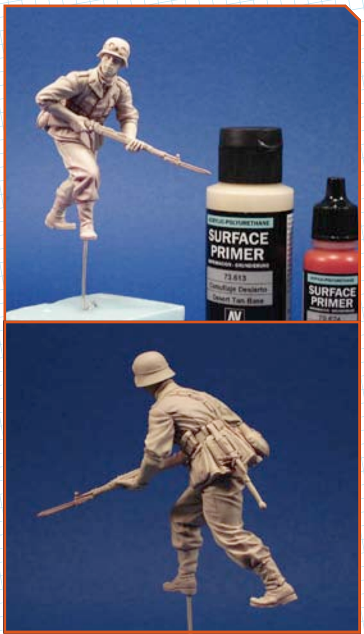
The resin casting is flawless and the figure is presented in several pieces.

Assembly is straightforward and the fit very, very good.

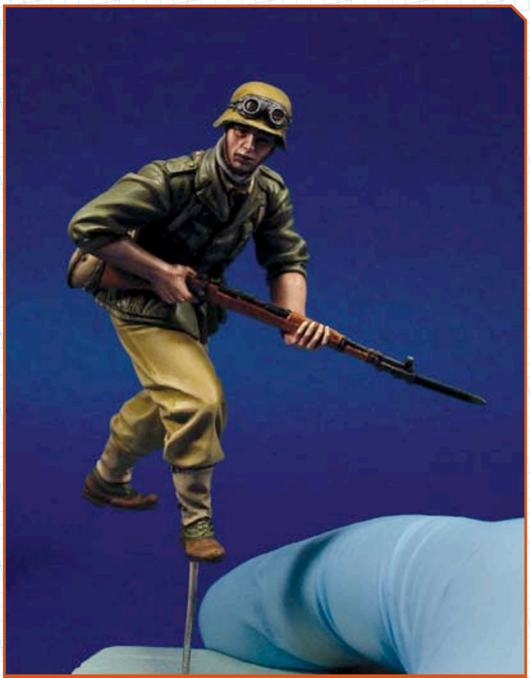
In a short time the figure is full assembled and ready for painting.



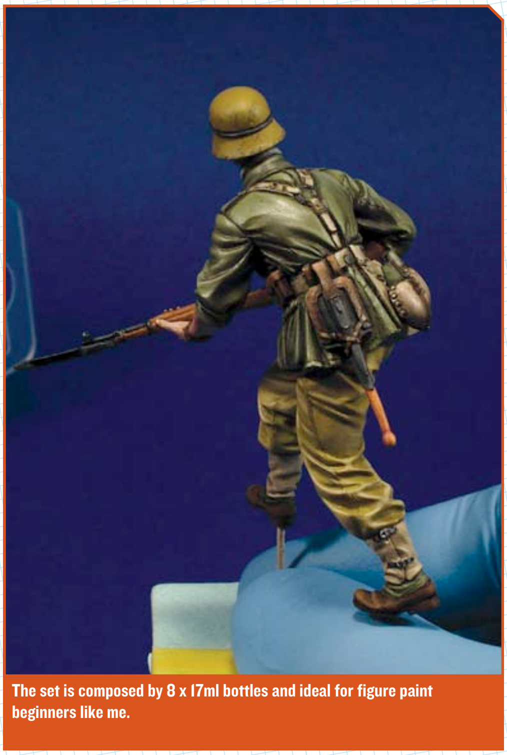
Painting started by airbrushing several well thinned layers of Vallejo Surface Primer Pure Red 70624. This will form a good base for the upcoming flesh tone.



Once the red primer was completely dry, the figure was airbrushed in several heavily thinned layers of Vallejo Surface Primer Desert Tan Base 73613. This colour is a good match to start painting the flesh tones.



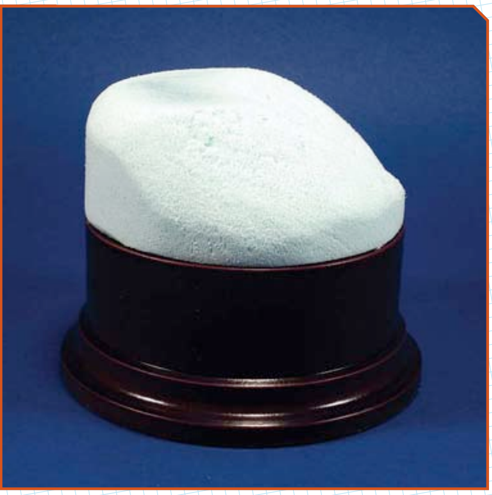
The entire figure was painted in Vallejo Acrylics and for the flesh areas I used their specific set “Face Painting Set- Acrylic colours for painting pale and dark skin”.



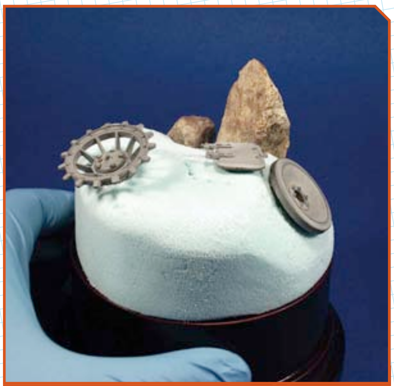
The set is composed by 8 x 17ml bottles and ideal for figure paint beginners like me.

## THE BASE

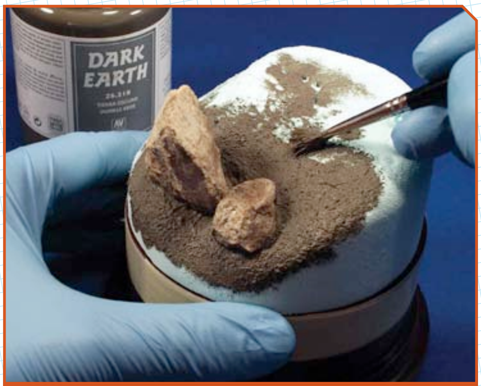
I am a diorama builder and for this project I decided to make a small base. For this I took my usual approach - a wooden base and the groundwork shaped from isolation foam. Isolation foam is lightweight, easy to work and very cheap.



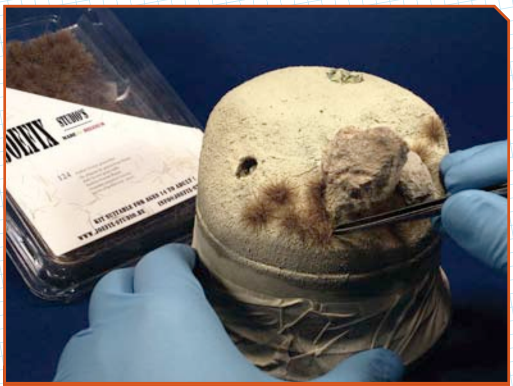
I also decided to use some Tiger tank parts in 1:24 scale. In this case the help and kindness of my friend Nate Esser was very important. Nate, from the USA, kindly sent me the necessary parts to complete this project.



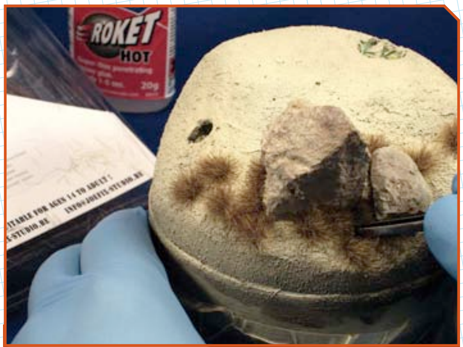
The parts and small rocks were pressed and glued into the isolation foam and the final place of the figure was decided.



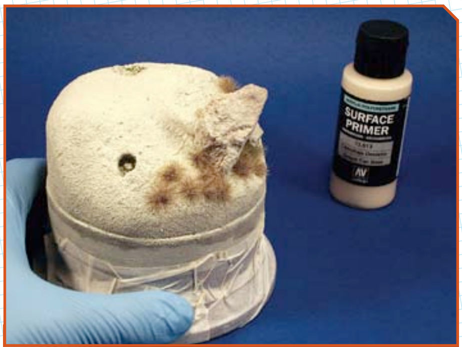
The ground work received a coat of Vallejo Dark Earth 26218. This is an acrylic textured paste and can be applied with the help of a brush or spatula. Being acrylic based, we can add water to change the consistency.



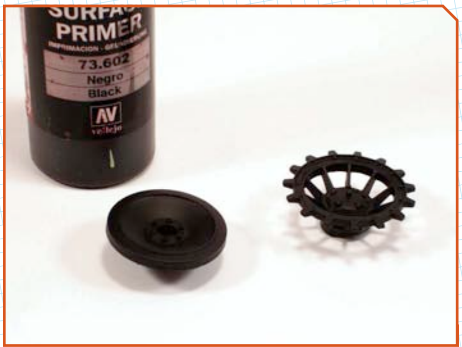
Once the paste was totally set, the soil was airbrushed in Vallejo Surface Primer Desert Tan Base 73613.



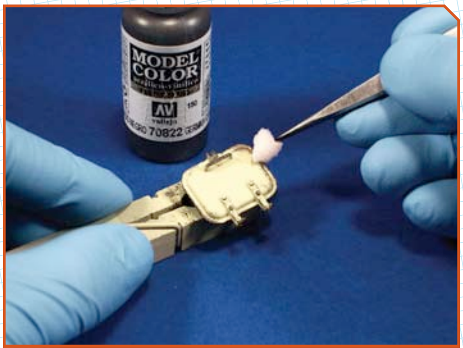
Small vegetation tufts were glued in place with the help of Deluxe Materials Rocket Hot glue solution.



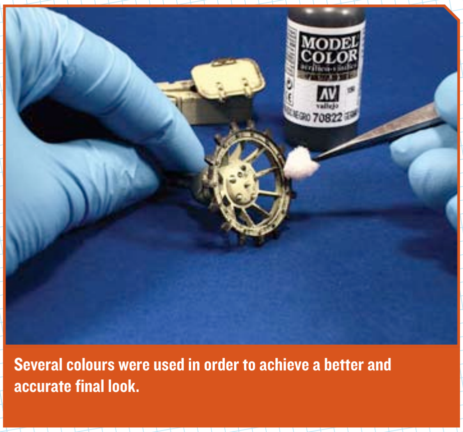
To achieve a dusty look, a thinned layer of Vallejo Surface Primer Desert Tan Base 73613 was airbrushed over the rocks and tufts. Please note that this layer must be applied very, very well thinned.



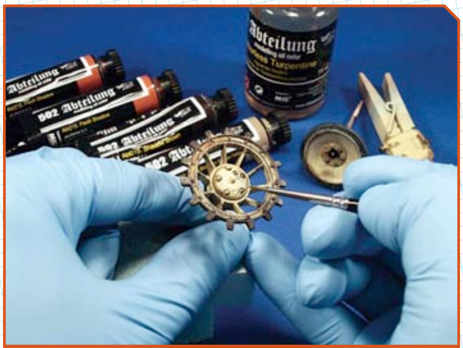
The Tiger parts were airbrushed in Vallejo Surface Primer Black 73602 and then painted in Vallejo Acrylics to represent the German Desert Yellow.



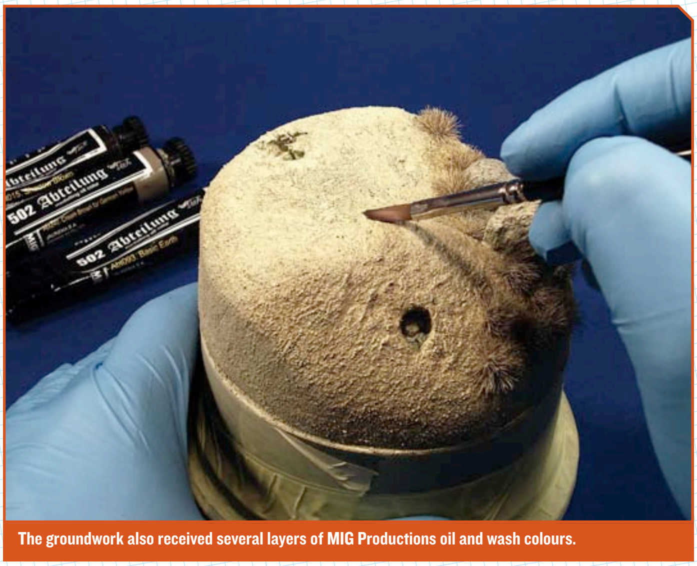
The weathering of the parts was achieved by applying thousands of small scratches with the help of a small sponge and oil washes from MIG Productions brand.



Several colours were used in order to achieve a better and accurate final look.



Here we can see the final effect on the Tiger drive sprocket.



The groundwork also received several layers of MIG Productions oil and wash colours.

This was always heavily thinned and several different colours were employed.

Once the oil and washes were dry, several pigments from MIG Productions range were applied. The pigments were fixed in place with the help of MIG Productions Pigment Fixer.

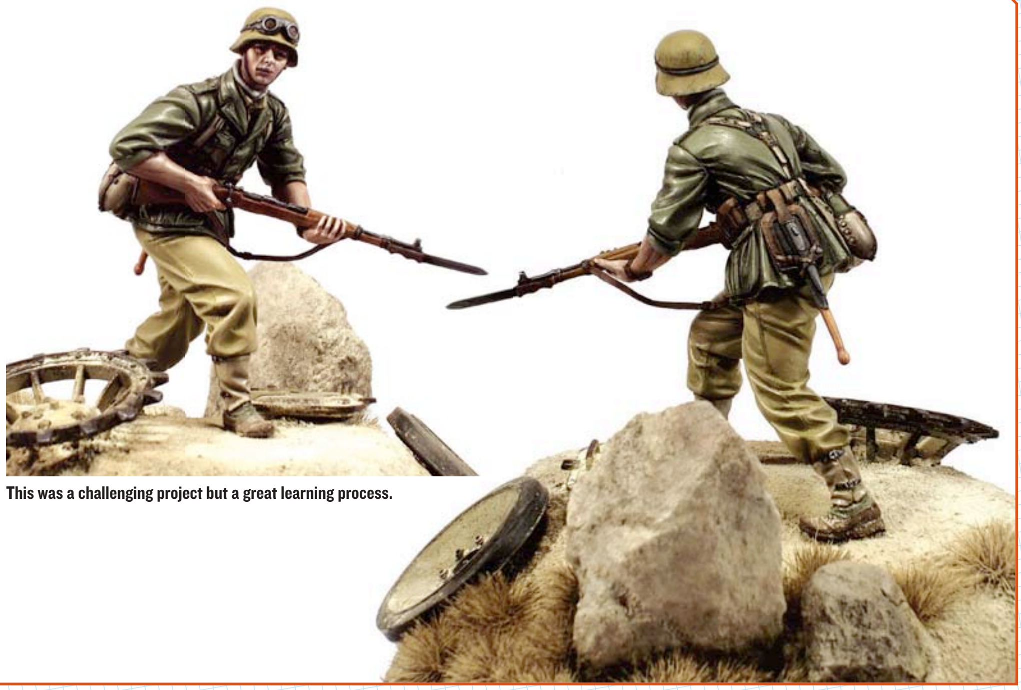
All we have to do is to apply the pigments directly from the jar and then add several drops of MIG Productions Pigment Fixer. The pigments will turn very dark and wet, but do not worry. Once the MIG Productions Pigment Fixer is well dry, the pigments will appear in full glory and the exact colour.

# CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this project was an enjoyable challenge to me, not only because I was making a figure offered by a good friend of mine, but because I promised him that I would paint it entirely in acrylics. I have always painted my figures in oils, so this was totally new to me.

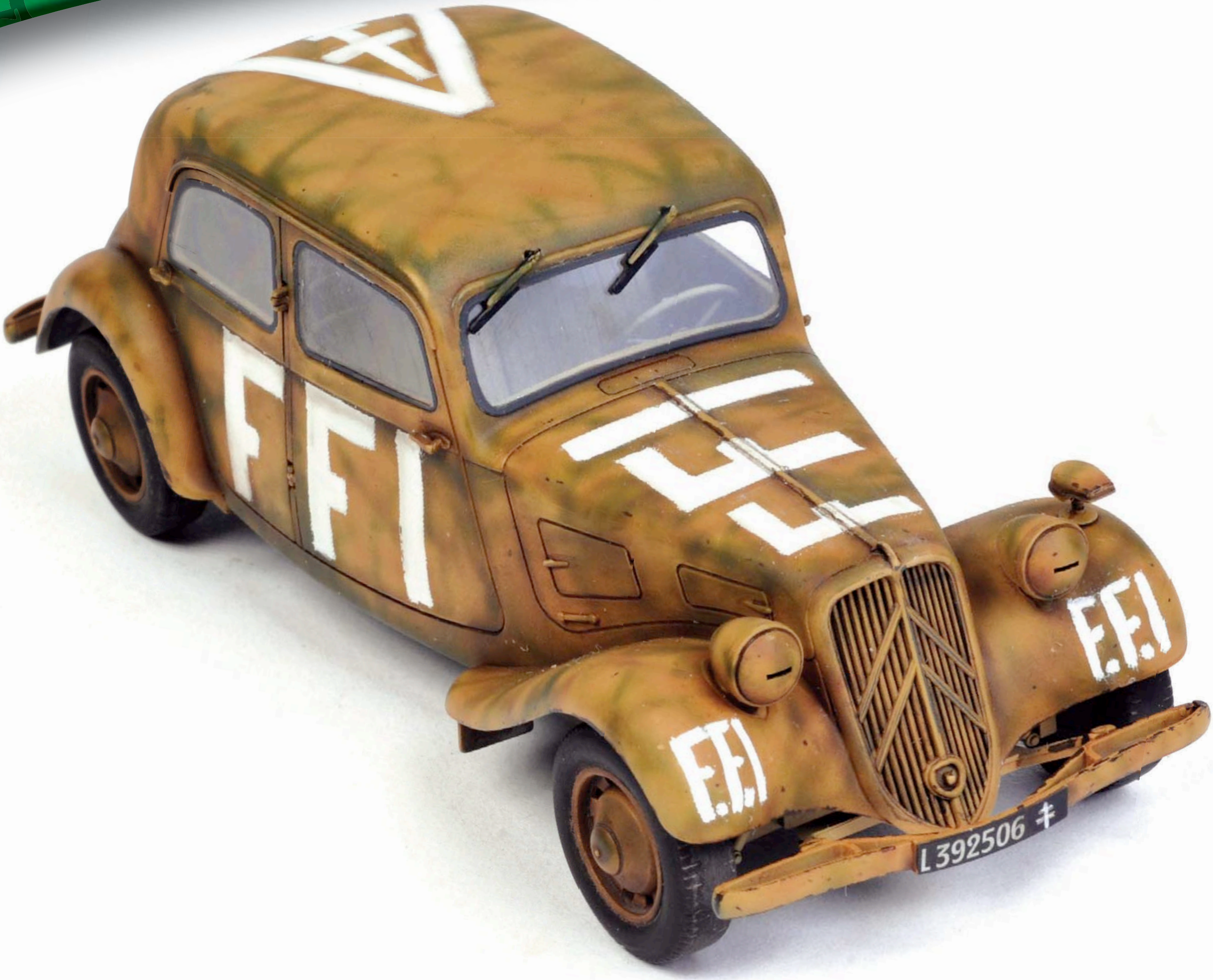
I am happy with the final result and I think I am on the right track when it comes to figure painting, although I still have a long road ahead!

I hope you like it. ■



This was a challenging project but a great learning process.

Tamiya 1:35 Citroen Traction 11CV Staff Car • Kit No 35301



# CITROEN TRACTION 11CV STAFF CAR

Back in 2009, the **Editor** crafted a Staff Car with history from Tamiya's just-released 1:35 scale Citroen 11CV Traction.

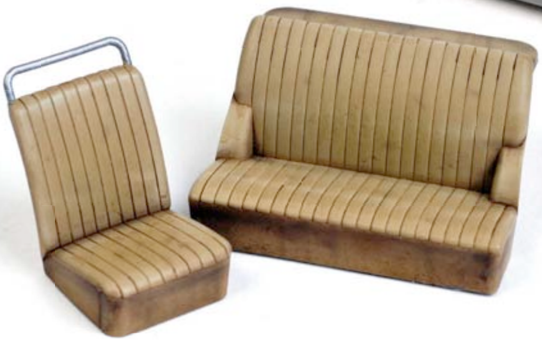
The Citroen 11CV was employed by the French Army early in the Second World War. When Germany occupied France in 1940, the spoils of war included large numbers of this comfortable and versatile sedan. The Citroen was pressed into service as a staff car with the Wehrmacht and the Luftwaffe until the end of hostilities.

Tamiya released a 1:48 scale Citroen 11CV back in 2005. This was a simple but attractive little kit that was a perfect companion for military or aircraft dioramas.

Ever since 2005, modellers have been hoping to see a scaled-up version. In July 2009, Tamiya released this classic car as a 1:35 scale injection-moulded kit.

Assembly was fast and easy.

The main components of the car were together in no time.



A bit of extra time was spent on the leather finish for the upholstery.

## CONSTRUCTION

Frankly, there is not a lot to say about construction. With only 54 parts, the kit fairly flew together. Fit was excellent and the model was a pleasure to build. Prior to assembly the raised moulding seams on the centreline of each tyre were eliminated with a sanding stick, and the faint ejector pin marks on the door were covered with Tamiya Surfacer and lightly sanded.

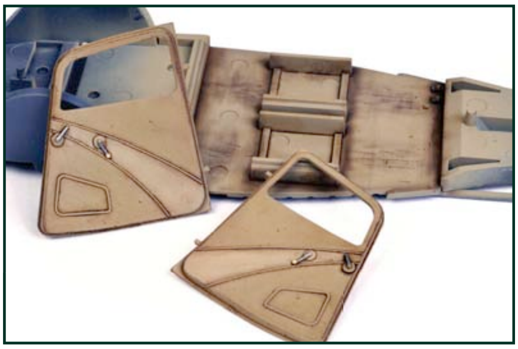
## PAINTING

The paint job started with an overall coat of Tamiya XF-63 German Grey. This highlighted the aforementioned seam lines on the bonnet and rear fender, so some time was spent trying to remove them with a sanding stick and fine sandpaper. Next, I mixed up a batch of German Dark Yellow using 40% Tamiya XF-59 Desert Yellow, 40% XF-60 Dark Yellow and 20% X-2 White.

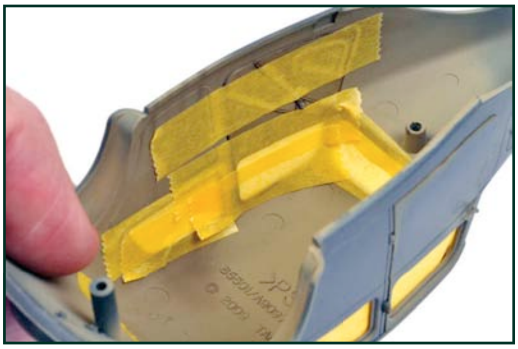
The disruptive camouflage colours started with a 50/50 mix of Tamiya XF-64 Red Brown and XF-60 Dark Yellow, heavily thinned with Isopropyl alcohol. This was sprayed in very light streaks, spots and swirls on the Dark Yellow base.

The Dark Green mottling came next, using a 50/50 mix of Tamiya XF-67 NATO Green and XF-59 Dark Yellow, once again heavily thinned.

The Free French markings would have been applied roughly with a wide brush, so there was no need to have perfectly precise markings. However, I was not confident enough to attempt to hand paint the markings directly onto the model so I worked up some artwork for custom-made ALPS decals. After measuring the required size of the markings on the vehicle, I drew the outlines ▶



Extra weathering for the floor and door interiors.

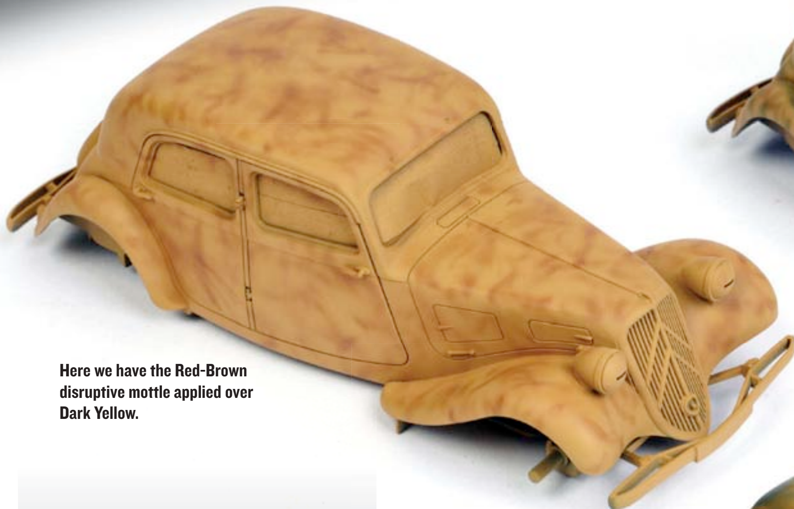


All the windows were masked from the inside using Tamiya tape before the upper and lower bodies were glued together.

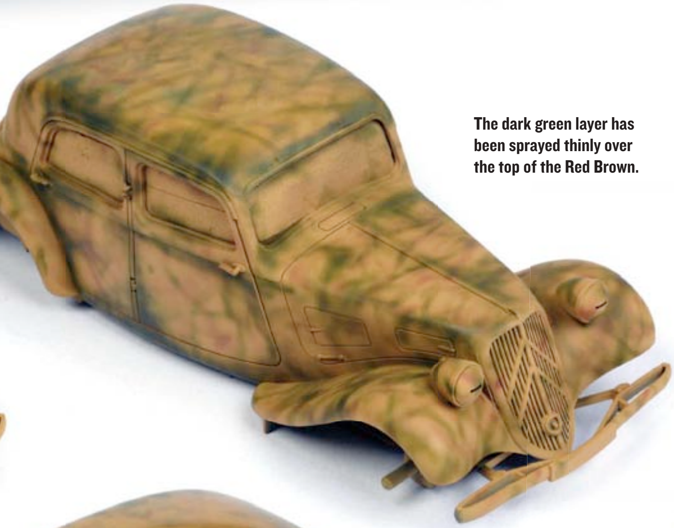
The body was clamped while the glue set.

# TALES FROM THE CRYPT

## Tamiya 1:35 Citroen Traction 11CV Staff Car • Kit No 35301



Here we have the Red-Brown disruptive mottle applied over Dark Yellow.

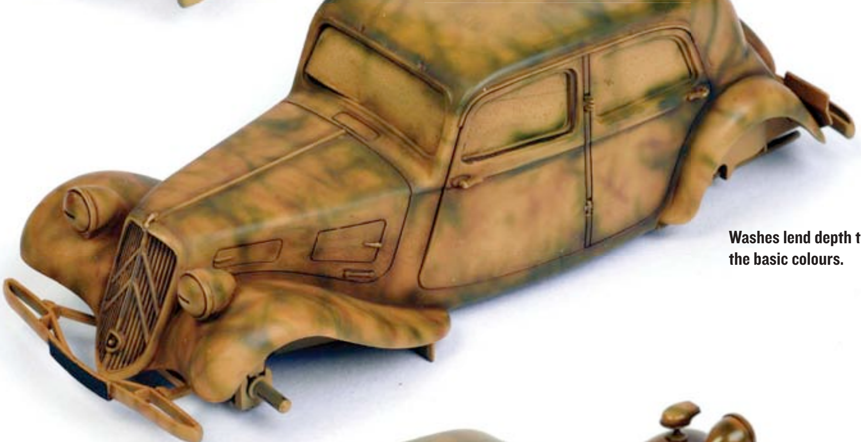


The dark green layer has been sprayed thinly over the top of the Red Brown.

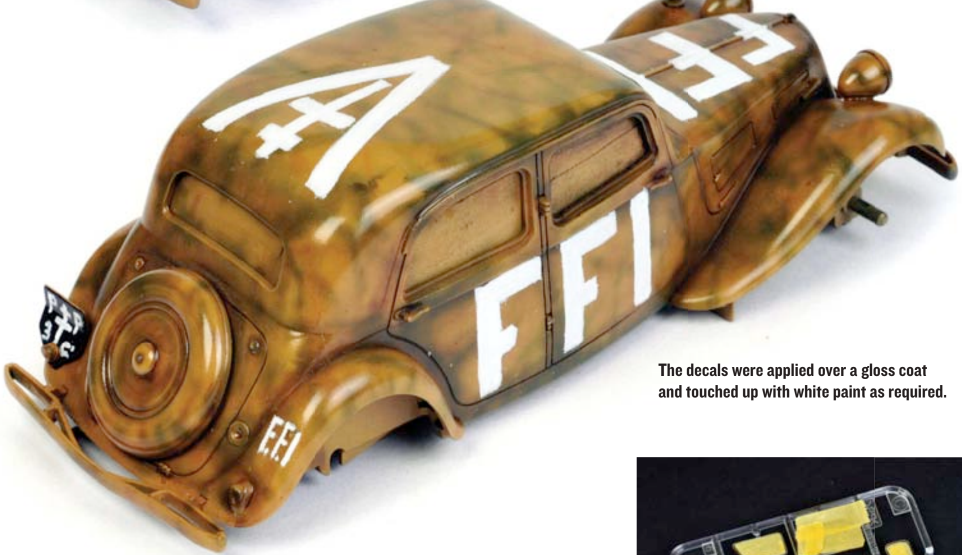
onto a piece of white paper in pencil and completed the markings with a black marker. The characters were drawn intentionally uneven and rough around the edges. These were scanned into my computer at 600 dpi, saved as a Bitmap file and printed at 100% to test-fit for size. I sent the artwork off to a friend with an ALPS printer (a handy sort of friend to have), and carried on with weathering while I waited for the decals to return.

When the decals arrived I wasted no time applying them. I cut close to the edges of the white markings, and the decals performed perfectly under a coat of Solvaset. The only problem was a very obvious dot-screen pattern on all the markings. My only option was to overpaint all the markings by brush. This was not really such a bad move, as it gave the decals a roughly hand-painted appearance. Vallejo white acrylic paint was used for this job.

The model received a couple of coats of Gunze Flat Clear. I was not happy with the level of sheen that remained, so I added a small blob of Tamiya Flat Base to the paint cup to deliver a dead flat finish.



Washes lend depth to the basic colours.



The decals were applied over a gloss coat and touched up with white paint as required.

AMPS-printed decals were commissioned from my original artwork based on a wartime photo of a recaptured Citroen Traction.

The clear parts were masked, sprayed dark grey and glued to the model.

## CONCLUSION

Tamiya's 1:35 scale Citroen Traction Avant 11CV was a delightful little kit upon its release seven years ago and remains so today. It is worth building as a model in its own right, but can also be a versatile element for a vignette or diorama. The possibilities for painting and markings are almost endless too, from a civilian scene in mid-1930s Europe, to French or German military service, or even a Saigon Taxi!

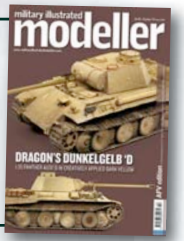
Whatever your predilection, I hope you have as much fun building your Tamiya Citroen as I had building mine! ■

A flat coat restored the dull finish.

FFI
F.F.I
F.F.I
L 392506

Tamiya's Citroen Traction is a great standalone model or will be a useful addition to a diorama.

If you would like to find out more details, the full article and many more images are in Issue 42 of Model Military International.



Tamiya kits are distributed in the UK by The Hobby Company Limited www.hobbyco.net

**Marcus Nicholls** takes a close-up look at the military models on show at Scale Modelworld 2015

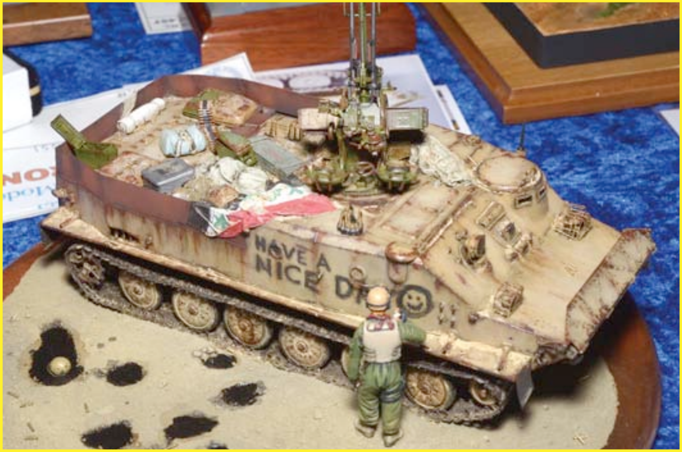
# SCALE MODELWORLD AND IPMS NATIONALS 2015

Marcus Nicholls and the ADH Publishing team once again took the drive north from their offices in Bedfordshire to Telford, Shropshire, near the border with Wales.

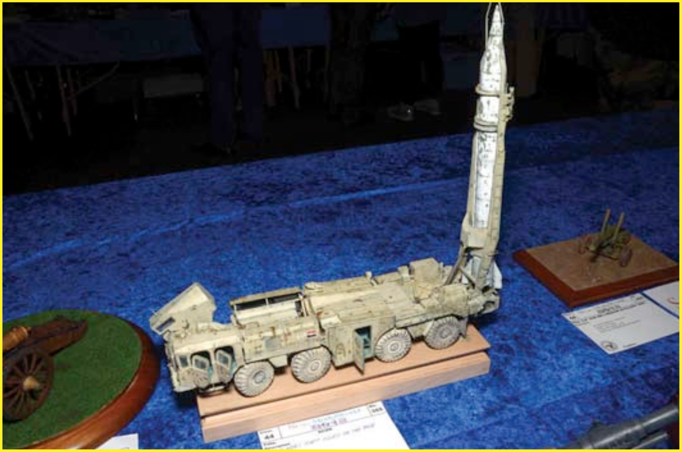
For a venue, Scale Modelworld makes good use of the aircraft hanger-like halls of the Telford International Centre. At the show you'll see a large range of vendors, IPMS model clubs from around the country and, indeed, around the world, plus the competition room.

The latter area is where modellers from around the globe flock to enter their newly build models in the hope of winning medals and commendations, as well as to proudly show off their model-making skills to all who visit. This year the tables were crammed with all types of entry; aircraft, tanks, trucks, cars, ships, submarines, science-fiction, dioramas, figures and more and the overall quality seemed up on previous years. But in MMI, we are only concerned with the military aspect of the displays of course!

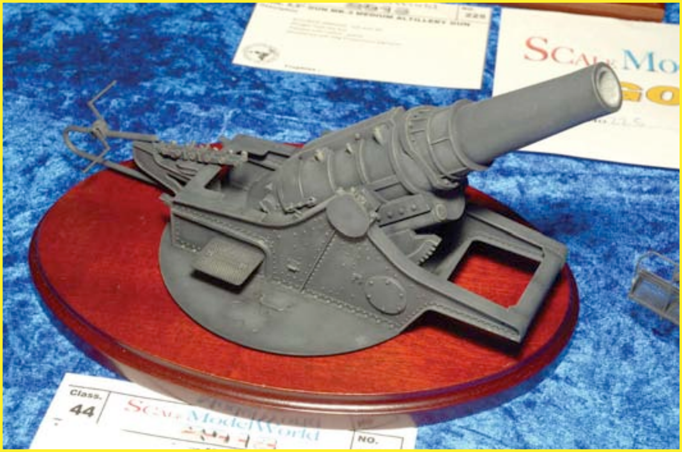
It can be seen here that the quality of the models gets better each year, which is an encouraging sign. Over the next few pages is our compilation of some of the competition entries that caught our eye this year, arranged in no particular order or class - just cool-looking models! ■



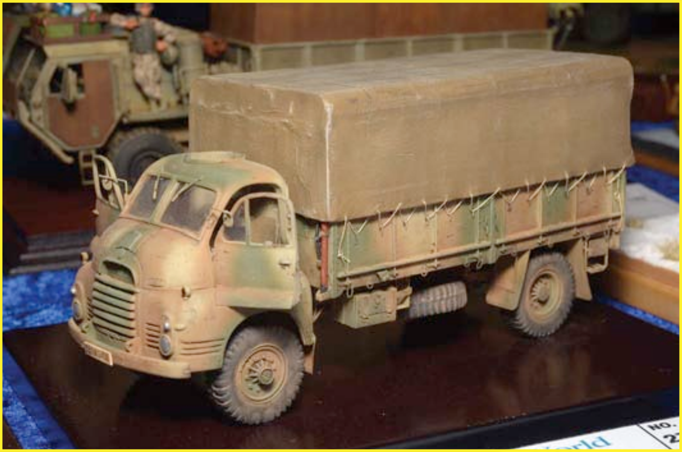
Trumpeter's 1:35 scale BTR-50K with some improvised armour and armament!



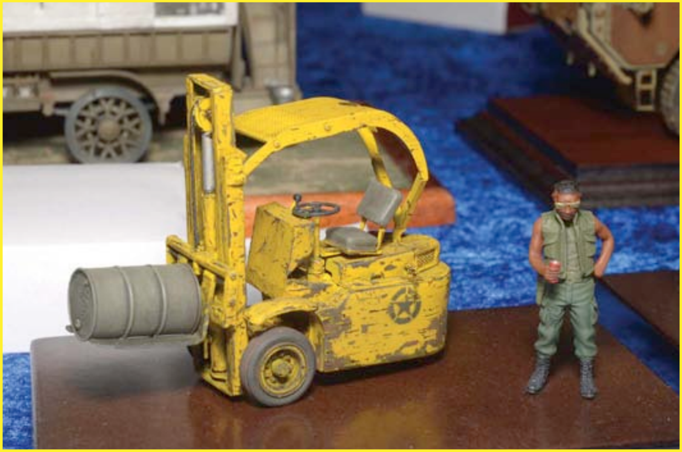
Iranian SCUD in 1:35 scale.



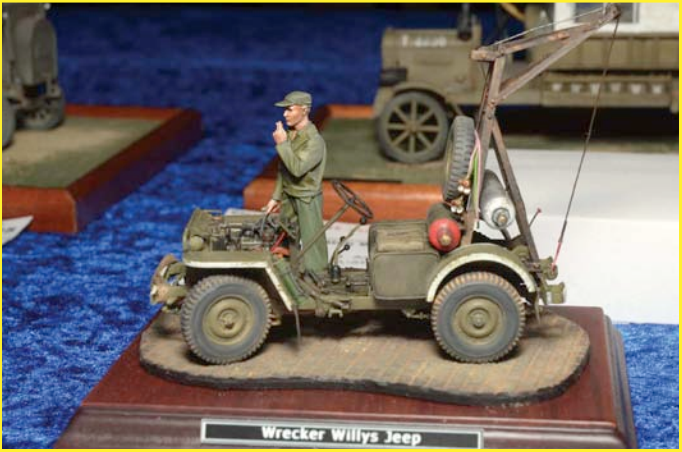
1:35 Skoda 30.5 cm howitzer



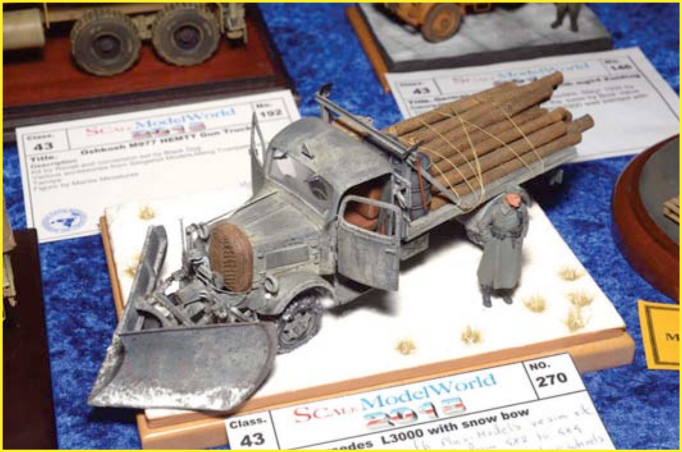
Bedford RL 4 Tonne General Service Lorry.



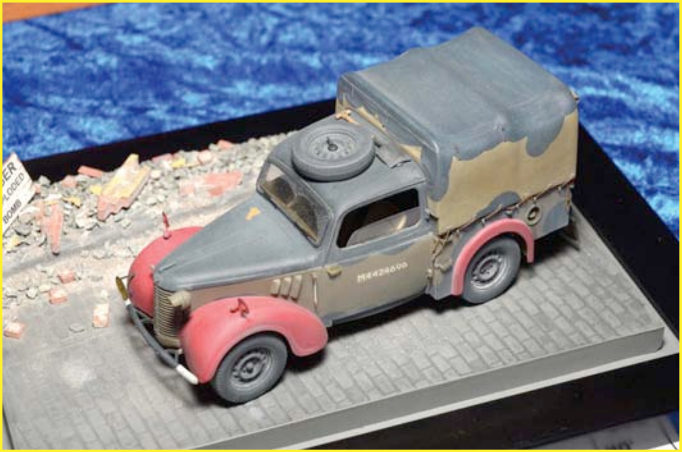
Vietnam-era fork lift with its operator taking a break!



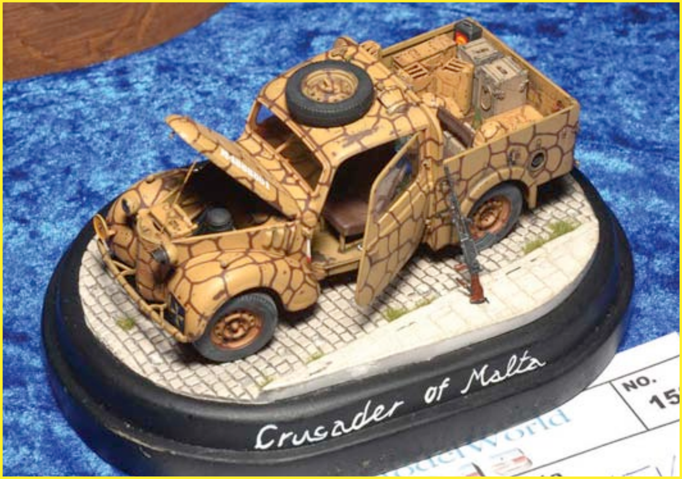
A clever conversion – 1:35 scale wrecker Willys Jeep.



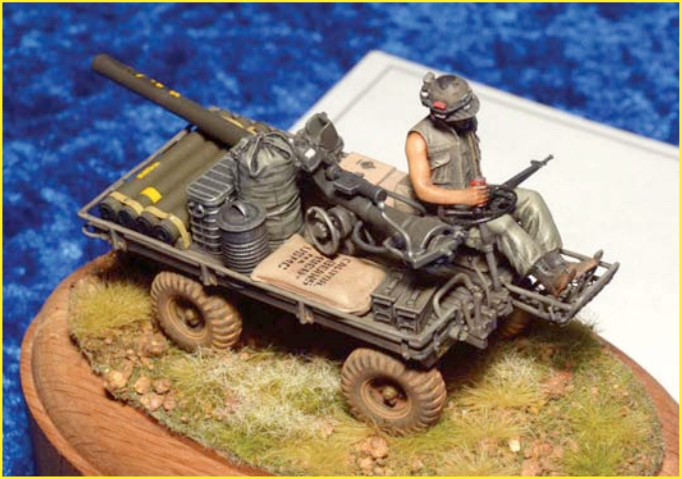
Italeri 1:35 Mercedes L3000 with snow bow and radiator cover.



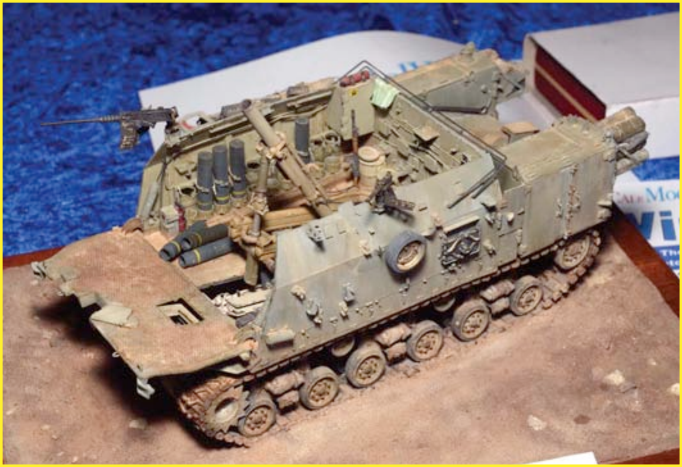
Tamiya's 1:35 scale "Tilly" with red bomb disposal markings.



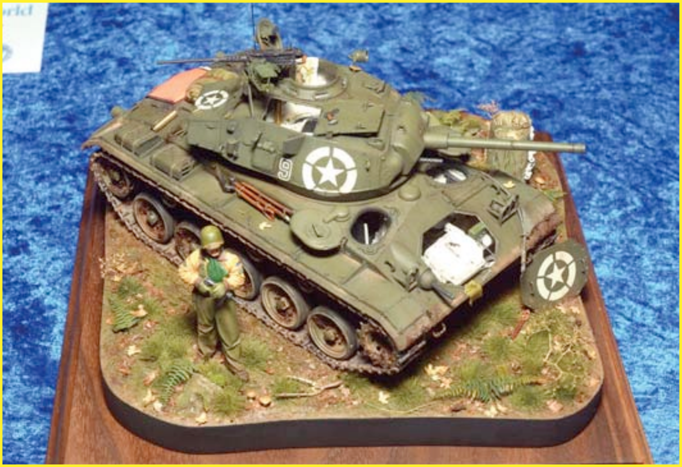
Another Tamiya Tilly, this time in distinctive Malta camouflage.



Dragon's 1:35 scale Mechanical Mule with Marine driver.



Fact or fiction? I'd be interested to know!



1:35 scale M24 Chaffee.

Su-122 wrecker in 1:35 scale.

Panther Coelian anti-aircraft SPG.

1:35 scale 7.5 cm StuK 40 anti-tank gun on Panzer 38(t) chassis.

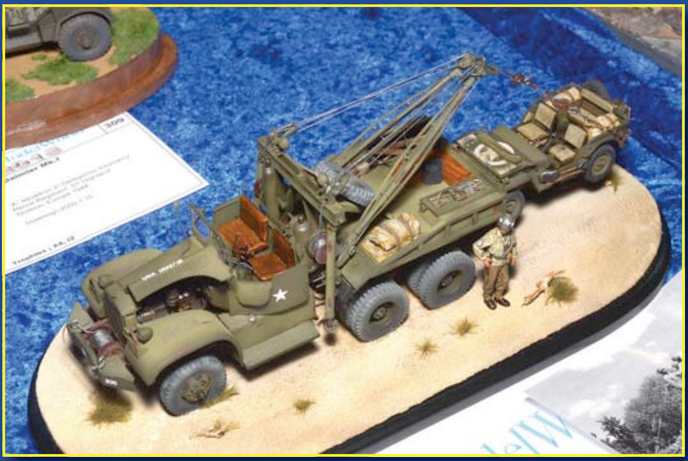
RSO/03 Ambulance based on the Revell 1:35 scale kit and JP Hobby conversion.

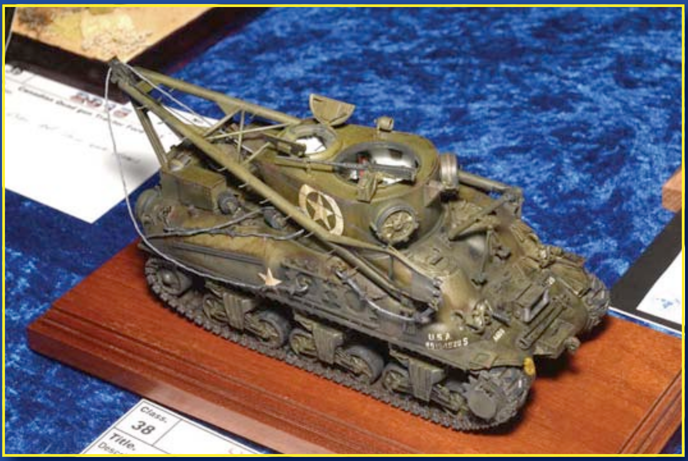
Abrams in desert garb.

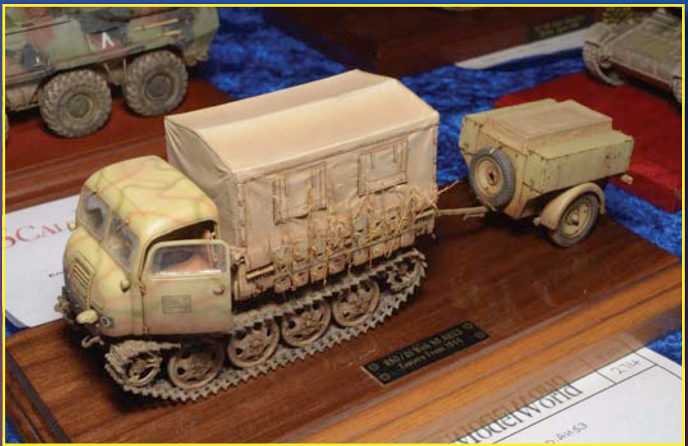
Italeri's 1:35 scale Crusader AA Mk.III.

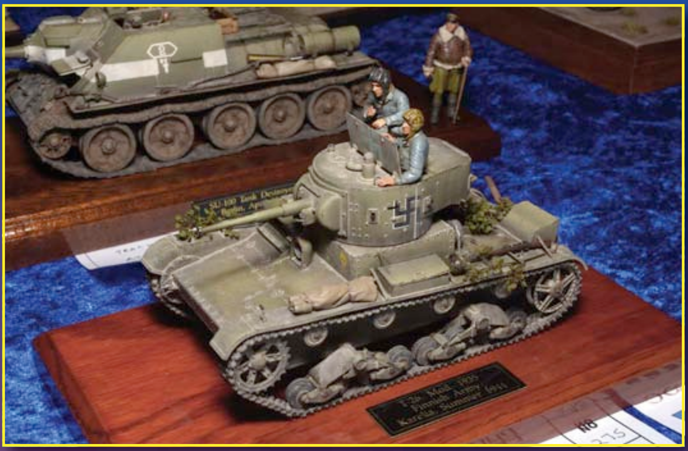
IED victim.

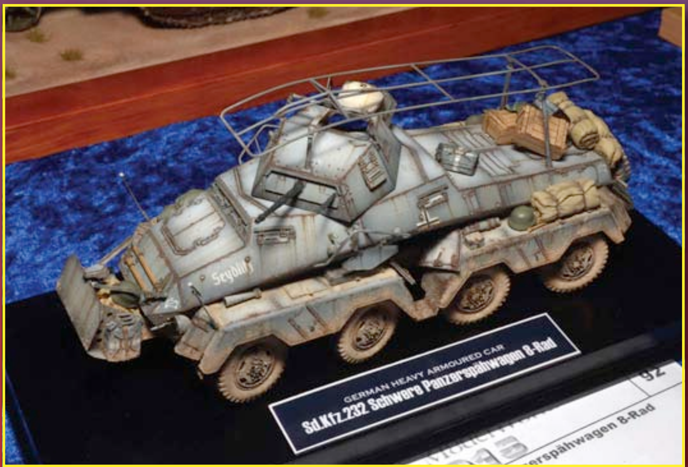
1:35 scale Mark IV.

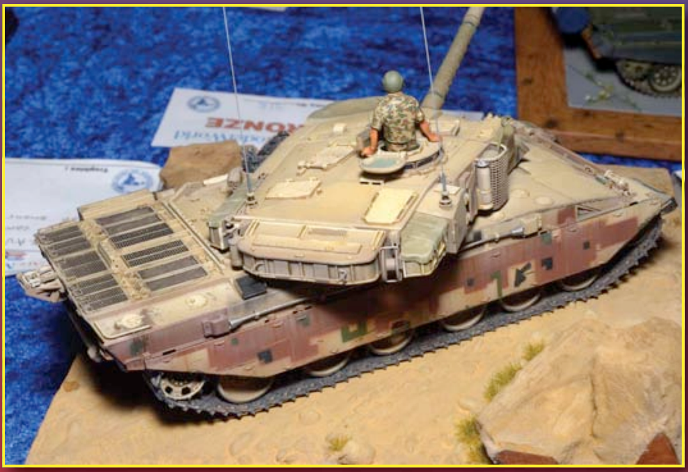

Mirror Models' Diamond T Wrecker and Jeep in 1:35 scale.

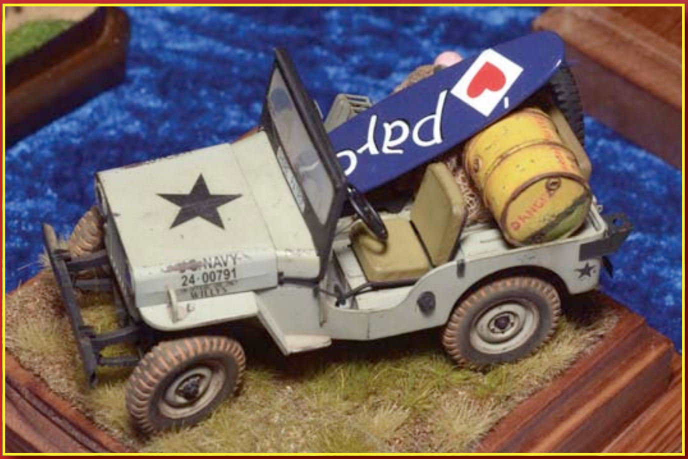

Tasca 1:35 M32B1 Recovery Vehicle.

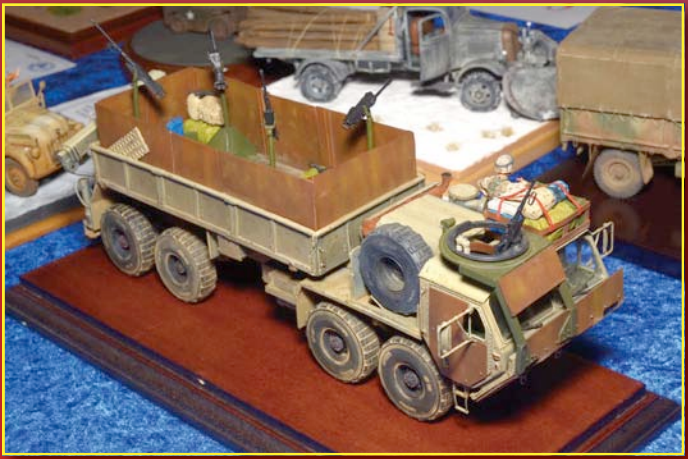

RSO 01 with Sd.Ah.53.

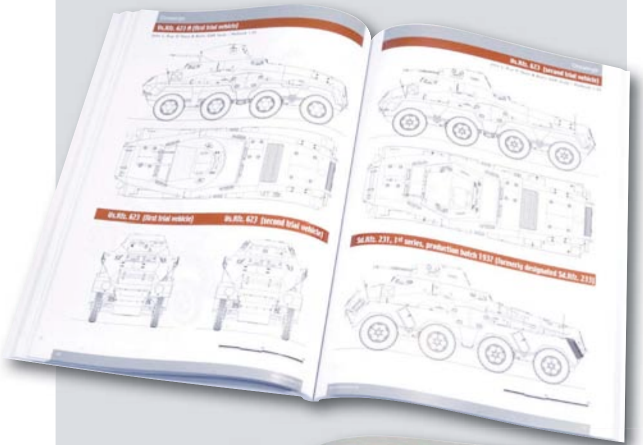

Hobby Boss 1:35 T-36 Model 1934 in captured Finnish markings.

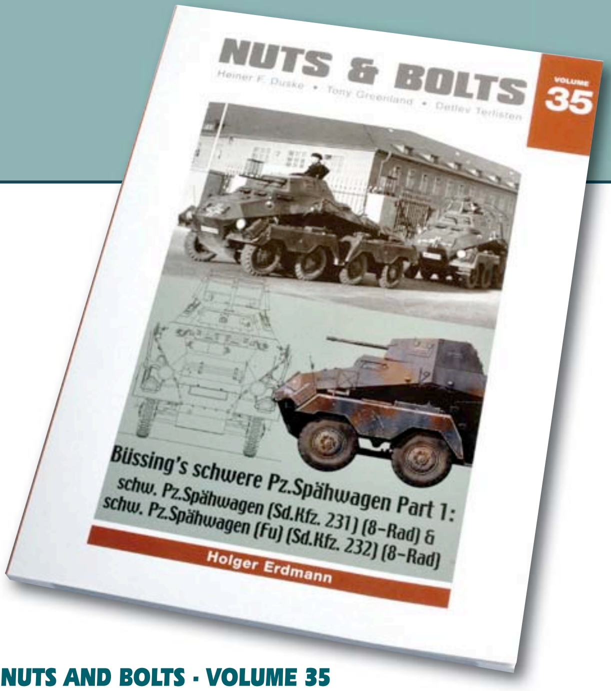

GERMAN HEAVY ARMOURED CAR
Sd.Kfz.232 Schwere Panzerspähwagen 8-Rad
Tamiya Sd.Kfz.232 Schwere Panzerspahwagen.


Desert Challenger.


NAVY
24-00791
A nifty Navy Jeep conversion.


Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck – uparmoured! This is based on Italeri's 1:35 scale kit.




NUTS & BOLTS
Heiner F. Duske • Tony Greenland • Detlev Terlisten
VOLUME 35
Büssing's schwere Pz.Spähwagen Part 1:
schw. Pz.Spähwagen (Sd.Kfz. 231) (8-Rad) &
schw. Pz.Spähwagen (Fu) (Sd.Kfz. 232) (8-Rad)
Holger Erdmann

## NUTS AND BOLTS - VOLUME 35
## BUSSING'S SCHWERE PZ. SAHWAGEN PART 1 SCHW.PZ. SPAHWAGEN (SD.KFZ.232) (8-RAD) & SCHW.PZ. SPAHWAGEN (SD.KFZ.232) (8-RAD)

**BY HOLGER ERDMANN**

I first became aware of the German eight wheeled armoured car in 1974. Tamiya had just released the 1:35 scale kit and from all the preview photos I had seen it looked to be loaded with detail. When the kit arrived on Christmas day of that year I was duly impressed. I remember thinking at the time, wouldn't it be great to have a book of some sort to help me build this model. Nevertheless, I just followed the instructions and brush painted it in a glossy grey colour. Times change and we have better kits and more information.

The "Nuts and Bolts" series of reference titles really need no introduction. What they offer is a one-stop reference source for the particular vehicle they cover. I like the convenience of these books. For me, it's is so much easier to just grab them, open a page when I require it and basically getting on with it. In reality, these books are more like four traditional books in one: a development history, wartime photo coverage, line drawings and colour profiles and a comprehensive walk-around photo essay.

This new reference work has some 201 pages. It was prepared with the aid of a restored example, although the restored example, has a few historically inaccurate reproductions on it.This reference work is logically broken down into segmented parts.

The first 121 pages are devoted to the development and history of the weapon's use in German service. Within this section, selected subsections discuss the development and technical description, followed by the differences between the prototype and production vehicles. The book is jammed packed with details like the variations of the weapon system itself and how they were used in the field. I particularly liked the way the author has detailed each division that operated these vehicles and in what time frame. The first section is lavishly illustrated with a more than 165 black and white wartime photos. The clarity and captions on these photos are noteworthy as they cover a vast number of additions and modifications adopted in the field.

The next 19 pages are devoted to 1:35 scale plans of all the known versions. John Rue never disappoints with his illustrations and the four three-dimensional drawings just add to the experience. The complete chassis drawings will come in handy for anyone wishing to detail the engine compartment as they are pretty much all you would need. Fourteen colour profile drawings follow over the next seven pages and are wonderfully executed and presented. What I like about these profiles is that within the profile itself, a small black and white photo is inserted to which the artist has given his interpretation. I believe this should be the industry standard.

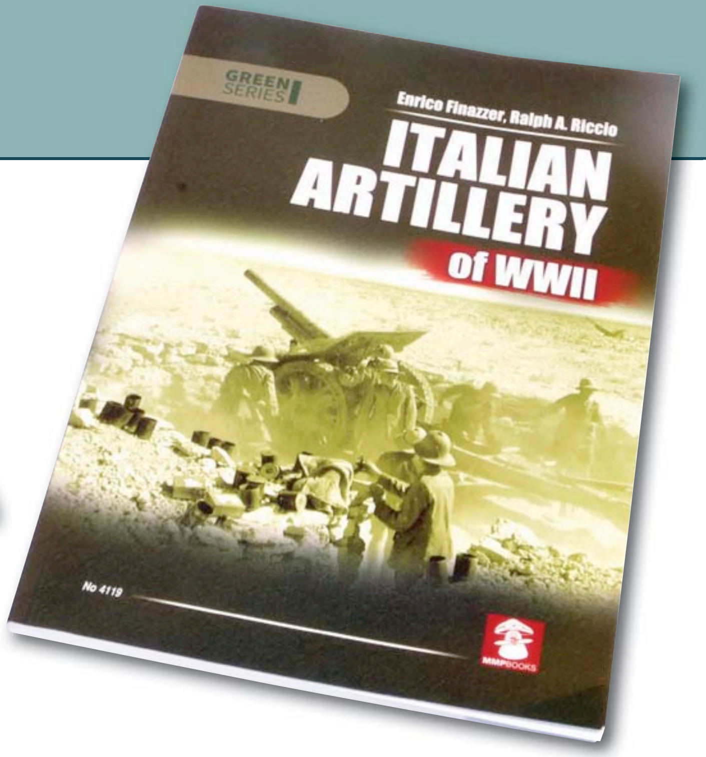
The next 44 pages consist of 126 colour walk around photos of a restored example. The entire vehicle is covered from the interior; engine through to a detailed study of how all the various hatches opened. As there are only two examples of the early version of this particular vehicle is something of a coup. Due to the rare nature of the vehicle however, some of the details on this restored example are incorrect as noted by the author in the captions. The last 10 pages are devoted to two model builds that are generally okay but, in my opinion, not really up to the standard set by the rest of the book.

In summary, if you plan to build this particular vehicle then you really can't go past this book. It is everything you could possible need reference wise.

Highly Recommended.

*Thanks to Nuts and Bolts for the sample www.nuts-bolts.de*

***Luke Pitt***



## ITALIAN ARTILLERY OF WWII

**BY ENRICO FENAZZER & RALPH A RICCIO**
**MMP BOOKS**
**GREEN SERIES NO. 4119**
**ISBN: 978-83-63678-61-6**

This is the third title of Mr Riccio's that I have reviewed and is co-written with Enrico Finazzer. Like the others I have enjoyed this title, which covers a subject little covered. I was more than enthused to review his title devoted to the Italian Artillery used in WWII.

This title is not as extensive as the previous titles being only 160 pages long and covering a greater range of subjects however it gives a good guide to what artillery was manufactured by Italy in WWII and that which was imported and used as well as self-propelled guns and artillery tractors.

It is well supported by a host of excellent black and white photographs and line drawings although not every subject gets these. It gives a short historical introduction before covering the individual weapons in turn.

The subject was not a familiar one to me and I was amazed at the broad range of equipment that the Italian Army used during WWII. Most of the equipment was of Italian origin or were war booty from the German & Austro Hungarian empires seized at the end of WWI. Additionally, the Italians used a number of modern German design either bought from the Germans or manufactured under licence.

This book covers a broad range of artillery and also includes the vehicles used to tow them and self-propelled guns. It has many great photos sure to inspire those modellers wanting a different modelling subject to exercise their skills.

This title covers the following subjects:

- Historical Framework
- Modern Guns
- WW1 Guns
- German or War Booty Guns
- Self-Propelled Guns
- Artillery Tractors
- Bibliography

The materiel covered in this book illustrates the full spectrum from light anti-tank through field AA and self-propelled variants to heavy siege pieces and their attendant vehicles. The list of types is extensive and as such coverage of each piece tends to be limited for some guns whilst others have quite a few pages particularly where the subject is a mainstay of the forces such as the Breda Mod 39 light AA which was used in a number of mounts including naval. Line drawings in side elevation only are provided for most subjects along with a table of specifications.

This is an excellent title and a must have for fans of artillery, the Italian military and WWII. The photo reproduction is excellent and lends itself well to the large format. It is extensive in scope and I believe is balanced and well researched. This is a must have title on the subject. The author has packed a lot into the 160 pages in a most readable format. It will not disappoint whether you are a modeller, historian or enthusiast.

Highly recommended to the collector, modeller and historian.

Thanks to MMP Books for the sample www.mmpbooks.com

Revell
German 7,5 cm PaK 40
& soldiers
1:72
02531

## REVELL

**1:72 SCALE**
**GERMAN 7.5CM PAK 40 & SOLDIERS**
**KIT NO. 02531**

This Revell kit comes in their standard, end-opening box and consists of two identical sprues of grey, semi-hard styrene to make up two 7.5cm PaK 40 anti-tank guns with crews. The kits are very simple, the guns consisting of just seven parts each, and obviously intended for wargame use. The level of detail on the gun is reasonable, given the limitations due to the low parts count, but where the kit wins out on is the figures, which are rather good. There are six to each gun and are well posed for their roles as the gun crew, but are strangely dressed in a variety of uniform styles, from parkas to greatcoats, steel helmets and caps. This would seem to indicate a winter scenario but the box artwork shows what seems to be a late summer scene!

The gun itself is quite simplified and designed to snap together, but could be improved by drilling out the muzzle and reworking the rather clunky gun shield. No decals are provided and only one colour scheme of dark grey is indicated in the usual Revell instruction sheet.

Reccommended for wargaming.

Revell model kits are available from all good toy and model retailers. For details visit www.revell.de/en, @RevellGermany or facebook.com/Revell

***Steve Shrimpton***

## REVELL

**1:72 SCALE**
**SD.KFZ.7 + 8.8CM FLAK 37**
**KIT NO. 03210**

With this release, Revell has combined two of their great kits into one package to give the famous FlaK 37 and its prime mover, opening up many diorama and display possibilities. The kits come in a larger version of Revell's standard end opening box with a slightly different style of artwork, showing what seems to be a DAK version at night under a starry sky! The kit consists of seven sprues of tan styrene, packed in three poly bags, a strip of clear styrene for glazing, a well printed decal sheet and a large, A4 size, colour instruction booklet which is very well detailed. This should be studied carefully as there are alternatives on many steps for the different versions supplied.

The instructions start with the construction of the Sd.Kfz.7, which is a fine kit in its own right. The three sprues are bagged together and are very finely detailed with no flash, sink marks, etc. The chassis has the front mudguards integrally moulded together with the engine sump and lower gearbox. The upper gearbox housing is supplied but there is no engine block, radiator etc., this would need to be added from a third party producer. The suspension units and drive housings are moulded as separate units and can be fully assembled together with the tracks before attaching them to the chassis, which greatly aids this tricky procedure! In addition, the inner rows of road wheels are moulded together, with just the outer wheels separate, again simplifying construction.

The tracks are moulded in styrene and should be warmed in hot, (NOT boiling!), water to bend them around the running gear and glue them in place with standard styrene cement. Three lengths of track are supplied so if disaster happens there is a spare! The rest of the kit is equally well detailed with tiny rivets, handles and hinges etc. Crew rifles and 8.8cm ammunition storage are also provided. The kit can be completed with the canvas hood up or down. The decal sheet provides markings for the two colour schemes in the instructions; a vehicle from 15. Panzer Division, DAK, Libya 1941, or Heeres FlaK Artillerie Abteilung 277, 11. Panzer Division "Gespensterdivision", Russia, 1941.

The Flak 37 is an equally fine kit, but much more complex, consisting of four sprues in two poly bags. The parts are extremely finely moulded and great care will need to be taken removing many of them from the sprues to avoid damage. The gun can be built in either the driving or firing position, and this determines the alternatives at various points in the construction. There is also a choice of gun shield to consider so it is advisable to check reference photos and information to make this decision.

There is little to criticise with this kit, but the purists might want to replace the wheels to improve the tyre tread pattern and the cable reels have no cables in them, but this can be remedied with suitable gauge wire.

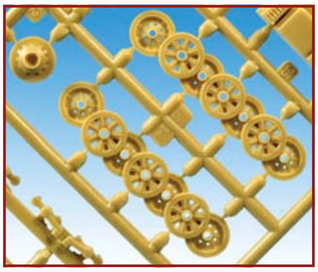
Again, this is a superb kit that with care will build into a fine display model or diorama, all that is needed is a suitable crew, either for firing or driving. The decal sheet provides marking for the same two colour schemes as the prime mover.

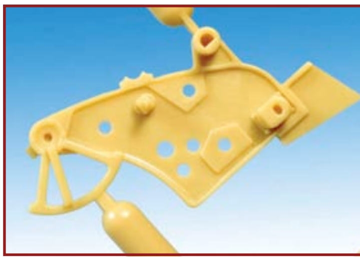
Highly Recommended.

Revell model kits are available from all good toy and model retailers. For details visit www.revell.de/en, @RevellGermany or facebook.com/Revell

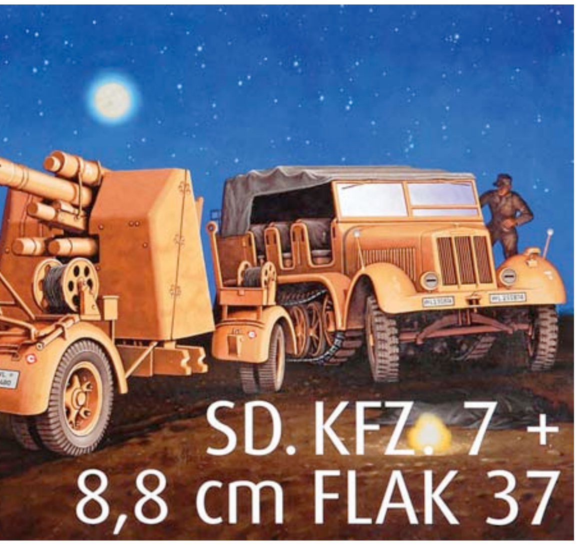
***Steve Shrimpton***

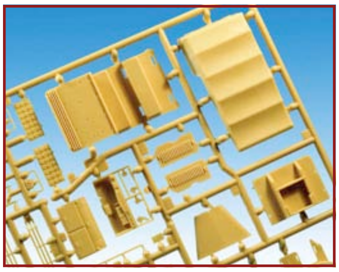
Revell
LEVEL 4
1 2 3 4 5
1:72
270 PARTS
20,0 cm
03210

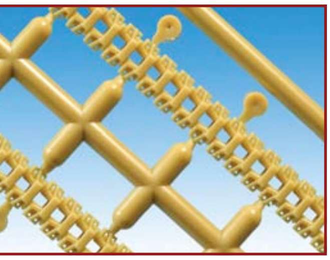


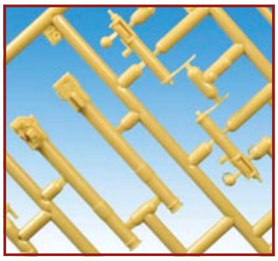


03210 - 0240C Sd.Kfz 7 & 8,8 cm Flak 37
© 2015 REVELL GmbH A subsidiary of Hobbico
Printed in Italy









Revell
LEVEL 4
SD.KFZ.7 + 8,8 cm FLAK 37

## ZVEZDA

### 1:100 SCALE

### SOVIET ANTI-AIRCRAFT WEAPON SYSTEM "SHILKA"

### KIT NO. 7419

This kit is another in Zvezda's Art of Tactic 'Hot War' series in 1:100 scale. This wargame system features modern sets of figures, vehicles and aircraft and are relatively well detailed for their scale.

The "Shilka" kit comes in Zvezda's standard, small, end opening box, with very good artwork, and consists of two sprues of olive green styrene, a small decal sheet and a simple instruction sheet.

The parts themselves are cleanly moulded with no flash, sink marks etc. in evidence and with remarkable detail, including fine recessed panel lines, tiny bolt heads, and wire mesh textures. The breakdown of parts is fairly simple as to be expected with a 1:100 scale kit, but well thought out and designed to be a 'snap-together' kit. It would probably be as well to use styrene cement for a more permanent and accurate assembly.

There are obviously shortcomings with a small kit such as these, such as simplified tracks and running gear, closed hatches and moulded on tools and cables, but even these could be addressed with a little ingenuity to produce a stunning miniature model!

There is no colour scheme guide, apart from the box artwork, and the decal sheet just provides a selection of white numbers from 1 to 0, so a little research will need to be done to depict a particular vehicle.

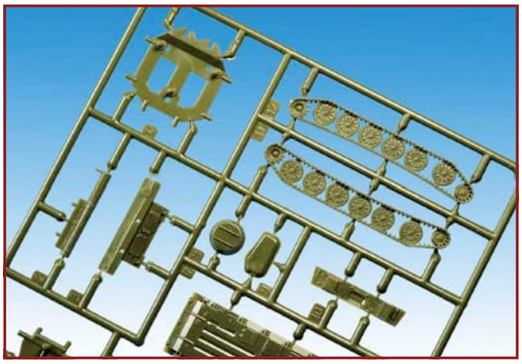
Overall a very nice depiction of an unusual model in this scale.

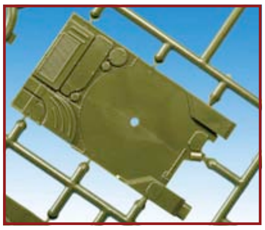
Highly Recommended.

Thanks to The Hobby Company Limited for the sample
www.hobbyco.net

***Steve Shrimpton***

ZVEZDA
1/100
СОВЕТСКАЯ ЗЕНИТНАЯ
САМОХОДНАЯ УСТАНОВКА «ШИЛКА»
SOVIET ANTI-AIRCRAFT
WEAPON SYSTEM "SHILKA"
HOT WAR





## BRENGUN

### 1:144 SCALE

### STEEL CONTAINERS

### ITEM NO. BRL144111

Brengun has released a set of four 1:144 scale steel containers. These are the type that are stackable using a forklift, and are commonly found in factories and warehouses.

Suited to N-Gauge model railways and urban or military dioramas, they are good quality and come with clear instructions covering their simple assembly. The containers retail for €4.89 (Incl. VAT) at www.brengun.cz

Recommended.

Available online from Brengun
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***Mark Davies***

# SHOULD MODELS LOOK LIKE MODELS OR THE REAL THING?

I have been in a bit of a quandary of late. I often ask myself whether a model should look like a model or like the real thing.

I started modelling for a number of reasons. The first was to try and emulate my late father and do something creative.

As a kid I was a great fan of science fiction movies. The one guy that stood out for me was Ray Harryhausen. His stop motion films like “20 Million Miles to Earth” and “Earth Versus the Flying Saucers” had an incredible effect on me. The creatures and vehicles looked like models and I liked it.

I was also a great fan of the Thunderbirds for the very same reason - the models looked like models.

Moving forward, I was influenced by the work of Sheperd Paine who, with his “How To” pamphlets in 1970s Monogram kits, brought a whole new way of displaying and painting models that had previously not been seen before. Again, the models looked like models and again, I liked the “look” of them.

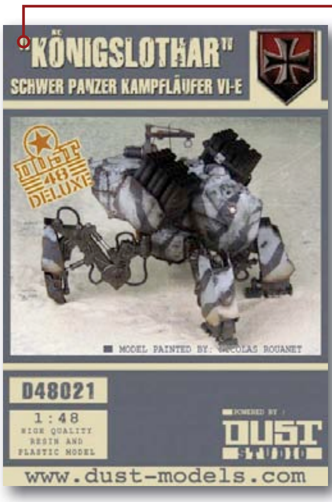
I notice now that the trend is ultra realism. Now I know that the aim of every modeller is to create the most realistic piece imaginable, but sometimes reality doesn’t really translate into a good looking model. It’s a bit like seeing a really gritty and realistic depiction of an event on film. Some of the magic seems to be lost on me.

I know that building plastic kits is little more than building and painting by numbers, but it is can be an incredibly creative hobby and begs the question, is it art. The jury is still out on that one, but I’ve seen some pieces that transcend from model to art.

For me, the real question is, what do you and what do your pieces to look like; models or the real thing? I posted these questions on Facebook a few months ago and one comment from Mr Andy Renshaw stuck a cord with me. It was “anything creative is always about observation, interpretation and replication”.

At each point we are limited by what is possible, so it is impossible to make anything creatively replicated look like the real thing. The very fact that a person created it, and that it is a replica, makes it look like a model or a painting. That is what makes it so enjoyable, as any part of that process can be slightly different than another and the result is something completely unique. Wise words? What do you think?

***Until Next Time***
***Luke Pitt***


"KÖNIGSLOTHAR"
SCHWER PANZER KAMPFLÄUFER VI-E
DUST 48 DELUXE
MODEL PAINTED BY: NICOLAS ROUANET
D48021
1:48
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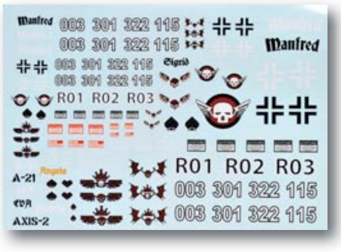


## DUST STUDIOS

**1:48 SCALE**

**SCHWERE PANZER KAMPFLÄUFER VI-E “KÖNIGSLOTHAR KIT**

**KIT NO. D48021**

Dust is a series of graphic novels created by Paolo Parente that creates an alternate universe where Germany, aided by technology recovered from a crashed alien spaceship in Antarctica, is able to end the Second World War in a stalemate that creates three major powers: The Axis Powers, the Anglo-American Allies, and the Sino-Soviet Union.

Among other things, the alien technology leads to the development of walking tanks that combine recognizable elements from real World War II vehicles.

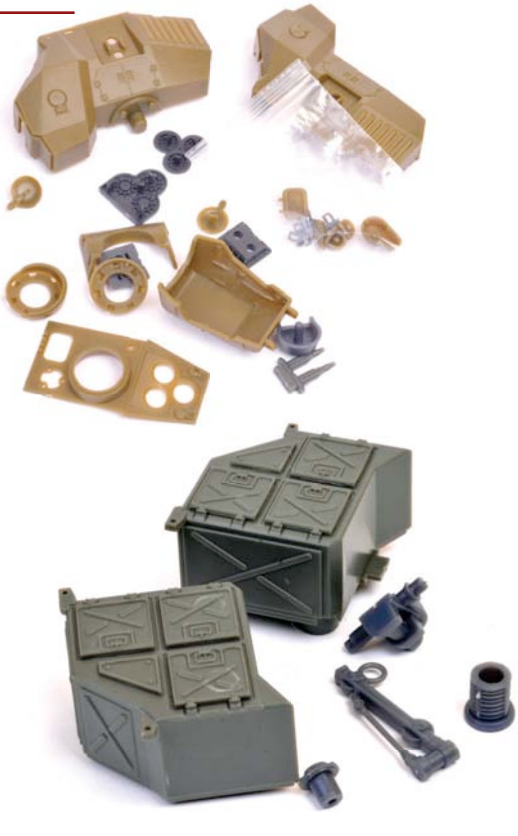
This 1:48 mixed-media kit is totally different. The instruction sheet is a simple four page colour affair, with assembly described over five steps. I was first attracted to the kit as it was entirely different to anything I had seen before, essentially a four legged walker. It looks like it means business and looks like fun with a capital “F”.

Reading from the instructions, the VI-E “Königslothar” is the latest variant issued to Axis Panzer Divisions. These weapons are capable of delivering massive damage to large areas, several kilometres away. The “Königslothar” carries ammo packs on its back, enough to fire several salvos. You know, we modellers sometimes get a little serious about the hobby and this kit adds lashings of fun as you can basically do whatever you want with it.

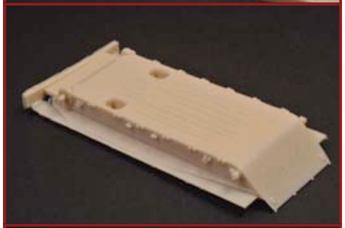
Highly Recommended.

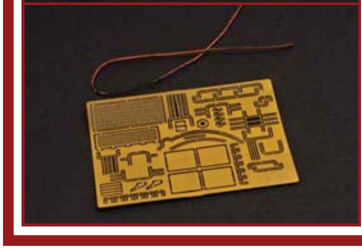
Available online from Dust Models www.dust-models.com

***Luke Pitt***



SCALE 1/48
TANK MANIA
www.tank-mania.com
PT-76 (BT-76)





## TANK MANIA

**1:48 SCALE**
**PT-76**
**KIT NO. 48-002**

The Soviet PT-76 was developed during 1949-51 and entered service with the Soviet armed services in 1952. Approximately 7,000 were produced with 2,000 of those for the export market. Over 19 countries have used these vehicles from its introduction so, from a modelling standpoint, the sheer variety of marking choices is huge.

It is pleasing to report that Tank Mania has now released a 1:48 scale kit of this important type and have done so with a lot of style and panache.

When opening the box, I was taken back with the size of the vehicle - it's as big as a German Tiger.

The kit consists of 100 or so very well cast resin pieces with the upper and lower hulls cast separately, The amount of detail on these pieces defies belief. The lower hull for example has all of the detail you would expect from a premium 1:35 scale plastic kit. It's all there from the integrated mud guards to the little truss vanes on the integrated water jets.

The turret is cast hollow with a bottom plate inserted into it. The turret is a work of art and an ongoing testament to the master builder. It is both accurate and detailed beautifully. The only problem here is that the main hatch is cast in the closed position, so if you want to open it up you will have to scratch build a new hatch and almost the entire interior (which is probably why the kit has the hatch in the closed position in the first place).

The road wheels come in single pieces and are detailed on both sides. The tracks are link and length and again are highly detailed, with the guide horns having the proper recessed indents in them.

The barrel has a small piece of wire cast into it to avoid warpage.

A medium sized photo-etched fret is included for the engine screens, grab handles and headlight fittings. I would have liked the engine screens to be finer and the turret grab handles don't really work in this etched form but they are a good guide for replacement if you so desire.

A small length of tow rope is also included.

The instructions are three photocopied sheets of paper that roughly give you an indication of what's in the box and where it should be placed. For someone like me these won't present a problem, but for others with a lack of reference material, they they might be seen as being basic to the point of being an afterthought. These and the photo-etch are my only major gripes with this kit.

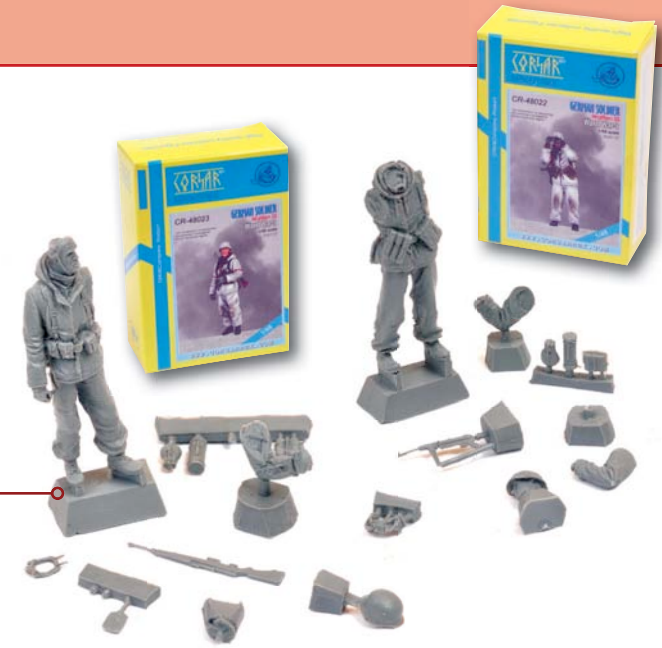
Be warned though, the kit is expensive. By the same token however, it is highly accurate and will not be bettered in this scale in the near future.

If you want a PT-76 in 1:48 scale, this kit is very good and well worth the money you pay for it.

Highly Recommended.

Available online from Tank Mania www.tank-mania.com

***Luke Pitt***



## CORSAR REX GERMAN FIGURES

**1:48 SCALE**
**WAFFEN SS SOLDIER TAKING A PHOTOGRAPH - ITEM NO. CR-48022**
**WAFFEN SS SOLDIER STANDING - ITEM NO. CR-48023**

Corsar Rex is one of the three resin figure manufactures that have taken the step down to 1:48 scale. I for one am grateful for their efforts. These two figures are essentially every bit as good and anything in 1:35 and I dare say even as good as som 120mm pieces.

The figures presented for review are Germans in reversible cold weather gear in standing poses that come in a stout yellow and blue box with a colour photo of the figures on the box tops.

Both the figures are very well cast with no bubbles or flaws in evidence. All the figures are cast as a torso and head with the arms as separate items. The facial details, which can make or break any figure, are very well done and are a credit to the sculptor involved. The uniform details are crisp as are the fabric folds.

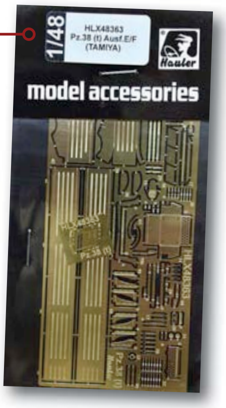
The weapons, where applicable, are done very well and scale out very accurately. The figures scale out at around 5′ 9″ or 10″ in the old imperial scale and are acceptable in height and bulk.

These figures should have a variety of uses and are most welcome. We can only hope Corsar Rex will continue with this range of figures and hopefully add some Allied subjects in future.

Highly Recommended.

Thanks to Corsar Rex for providing the review www.corsarrex.com

***Brett Green***



## HAULER

**1:48 SCALE**
**PZ.38T AUSF.E/F UPGRADE**
**ITEM NO. HLX48363**

Our friends at Hauler continue to offer we 1:48 scale modellers sensible updates for all the newer releases.

This month we have a complete photo-etched upgrade for Tamiya's Pz.38(t).

Included is a full set of mudguards and their support brackets, a lovely perforated tool box that may be modelled in the open position if so desired, and the engine mesh screen.

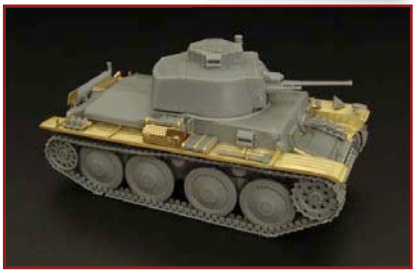
Various other nick knacks complete the package.

This set goes a long way to addressing the sometimes overly thick kit supplied parts and is well work the rather modest asking price.

Highly Recommended.

Thanks to Hauler for the review sample www.hauler.cz

***Brett Green***



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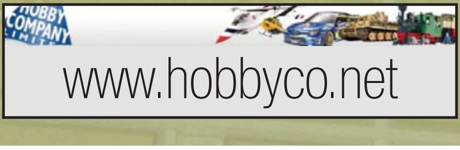
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# Next Issue

## On sale 7th April, 2016

### STUBBORN MAULTIER

**Dan Moore upgrades Tamiya's 1:35 scale Sd.Kfz. 4/1 Panzerwerfer 42.**

### SYRIAN 2S1

**Brett Avants presents Trumpeter's 1:35 scale 2S1 Gvozdika in Syrian service.**

### ITALERI LINCE

**Andy King does a straight-from-the-box build of Italeri's 1:35 scale Lince**

### FOR YOUR SAFETY

Don't forget, when using solvents such as glues, paints, thinners and cleaning agents, always ventilate your work area thoroughly and wear a face mask.

When using power tools, side cutters or any tool that can suddenly break or create high-speed airborne particles, wear approved eye protectors with hard, clear lenses. Please always model in safety!

### SCHWIMMWAGEN

**Tamiya's 1:48 Schwimmwagen with figures by Luke Pitt, plus a Think Tank reference article from Bruce Culver.**

### ...and much more!

Due to many influencing factors, we cannot guarantee the appearance of the above projects, but we'll try our best!

**Model MILITARY INTERNATIONAL**

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# The Last Post...

# TEN YEARS FOR MODEL MILITARY INTERNATIONAL

## Time truly does fly. With this issue, MMI is now ten years old.

NEW!
REVIEWS: 1:35 CHINOOK ■ 1:48 M10 TD ■ 1:35 'NAM DIO...
TAMIYA'S 1:48 M10
Model MILITARY INTERNATIONAL
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IN THE FIRING LINE
Dragon meets Formations in Sherman Firefly showdown...
■ All the information you'll ever need to create the best military models... ■

From The Wayback Machine
MMI Issue 1 — May 2006!

I have been privileged to be Editor of this publication from Issue 38, before which John "Spud" Murphy guided the magazine through its launch and earliest issues.

I consider myself very fortunate to work with a talented and devoted team.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to all of Model Military International's contributors, whose wonderful models and research have appeared between our covers over these first 120 issues.

Our Think Tank articles, usually related to a modelling subject in the same issue, are an important part of the character of the magazine. I would particularly like to thank Bruce Culver for his remarkable ability to turn around high quality and original reference articles at amazingly short notice. Stuart Ransley has done a great job with modern subjects, and it has been a pleasure to welcome Steve Zaloga, Peter Brown, Zack Sex and Dennis Oliver as Think Tank contributors in more recent years too.

MMI is fortunate to boast a team of reviewers with expertise in a number of specialist areas, including (but not limited to) Andy King, Graham Tetley, Al Bowie, Steve Shrimpton and Andrew Judson. Not only do they know their stuff, but they also understand the importance of providing a balanced review pointing out both the high points and the potential problems with new release kits and accessories. I am very grateful to our ensemble of reviewers.

Alex Hall has been responsible for MMI design duties since Day One, and was also responsible for the original design concept for the magazine. Alex does a fantastic job converting basic photographs and words into attractive flowing visual stories. Thanks Alex!

Despite the extra duties imposed by MIM's AFV Edition, ADH Publishing's Group Editor Marcus Nicholls continues to be an essential part of the creative process with his feedback, suggestions and support.

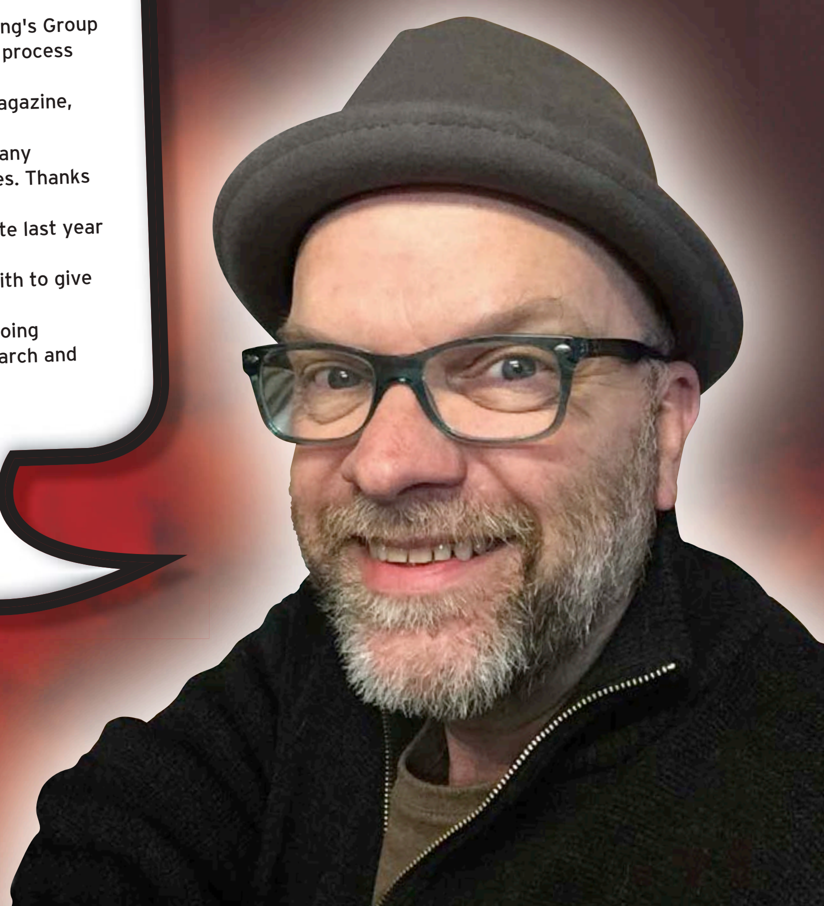
Luke Pitt's monthly 1:48 scale section has become a fixture of the magazine, and he has also found time to build models.

There is a surprising amount of administrative work associated with any magazine, such as dealing with correspondence and distributing samples. Thanks to Paula and Hannah for shouldering the back-office burden of MMI.

Thanks to Justin Noble for his hard work on our new-look MMI website last year at http://modelmilitary.com too.

I am also grateful to our Publisher Alan Harman to, for having the faith to give me this wonderful, and for letting me keep it.

And last but certainly not least, thank you, MMI reader, for your ongoing support of the magazine. We hope that you will enjoy the models, research and news that we will have over the next ten years! ■



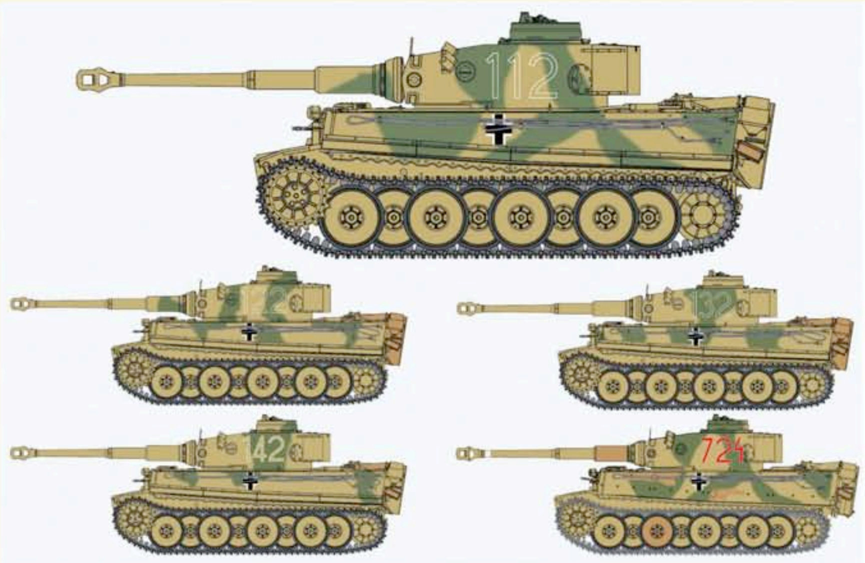
1:35 '39-'45 SERIES

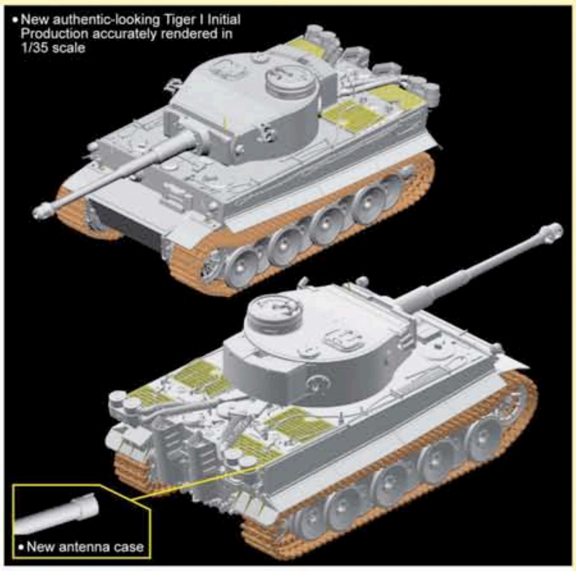
# Pz.Kpfw.VI Ausf.E Sd.Kfz 181 Tiger 1 "Tunisian Initial"

s.Pz.Abt.501 and Pz.Rgt.7
Tunisia 1942-43

Smart Kit

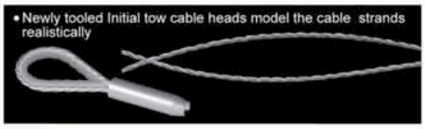
**Engineered for modeling enjoyment** **Plastic parts with enhanced detail** **Unprecedented value** **Ready for instant assembly!**




- New authentic-looking Tiger I Initial Production accurately rendered in 1/35 scale
- New antenna case

- Fine, accurate detail on hull side panels
- Includes the round repair patches carried by Tiger "724"

- Unique "Tunisian" headlight stand is made by slide molding and photo-etch

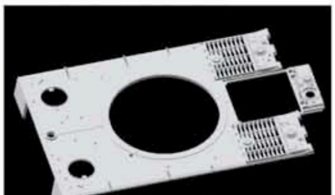

- Newly tooled Initial tow cable heads model the cable strands realistically

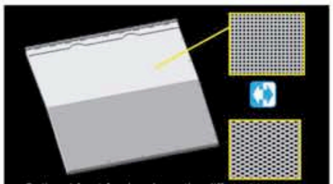
- New initial-type road wheel provided as option

- Newly tooled storage bin has the correct width and accurate details

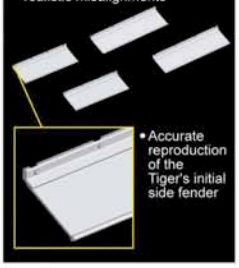
- Three different corner mudguards are included to model specific Tunisian Tigers accurately

- New details below the fenders, including the support bracket


- New upper hull with accurate turret seating ring

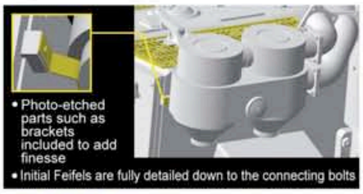

- Optional front fenders have the different texture patterns of specific Tunisian Tigers
- Both surface and bottom have texture pattern

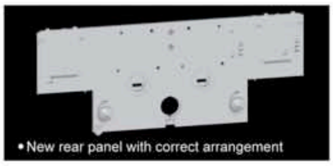
- Photo-etched ribs for the rear fenders include the handles


- Side fenders represented by separate panels can model realistic misalignments
- Accurate reproduction of the Tiger's initial side fender

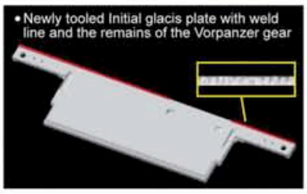
- KFF2 apertures in bow plate are separate parts
- Plug-in parts can be correctly assembled horizontal to hull and not parallel with armor plate

- Engine deck is fully detailed, including photo-etched grills, tow cables and Feifel air filters


- Photo-etched parts such as brackets included to add finesse
- Initial Feifels are fully detailed down to the connecting bolts

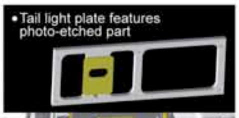

- New rear panel with correct arrangement

- Turret roof made by slide-mold


- Newly tooled Initial glacis plate with weld line and the remains of the Vorpanzer gear

- Accurately reproduces the complex rear wall

- New mantlet with correct shape and details


- Tail light plate features photo-etched part

- Accurate arrangement of track tool stowage box on rear hull

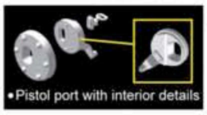
- Two accurately reproduced crew seats inside the turret

- Loader's hatch includes interior detail

- Turret base has correct details for a Tunisian Tiger
- Accurately sized turret bin touches the pistol ports
- Newly tooled one-piece turret shell

- Outer road wheels can be omitted, revealing accurate hub detail

- Waterproof-cover hooks for MG made from plastic part


- Pistol port with interior details

- Hull hatches w/interior detail and optional periscope hoods

- Hull bottom w/correct drains and hatches for early Tigers

- One-piece molded cupola w/vision slits
- Clear direct-vision blocks
- Hatch w/interior details

- Interior hull components: fuel tanks, radiators, fans

- Detailed hull MG w/mounting frame, ammunition bag and telescope

- Accurately detailed slide molded muzzle brake

- User-friendly DS tracks
- One piece DS tracks

DRAGON

**D6608**

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# Turning the Tide

Length: 146mm

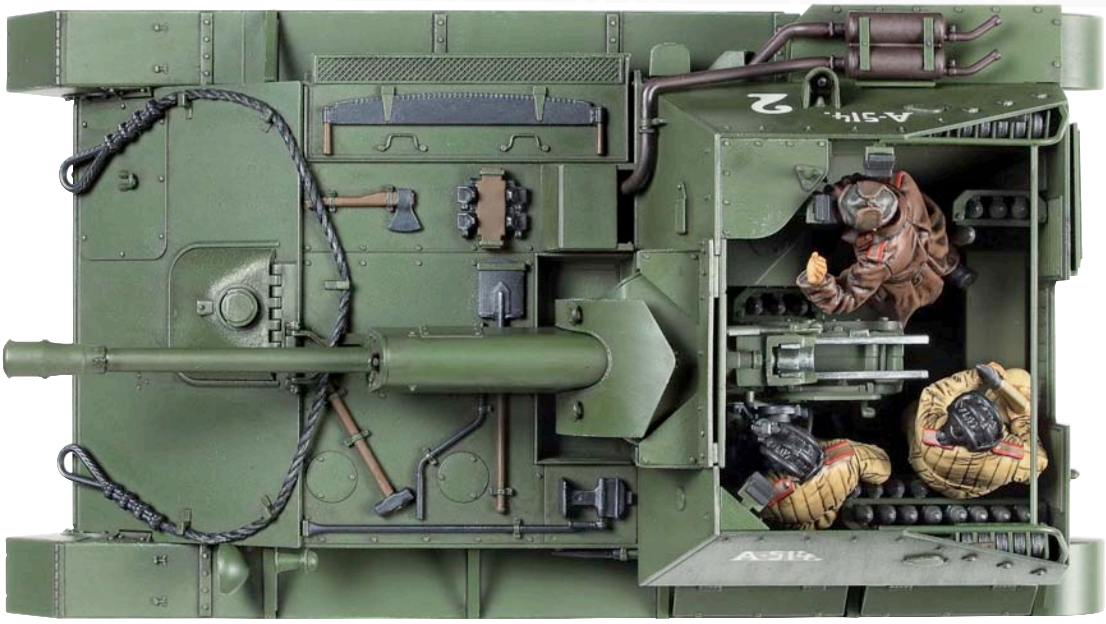
**1/35 SCALE**

1/35 Military Miniature Series

## Russian Self-Propelled Gun SU-76M (Item 35348)

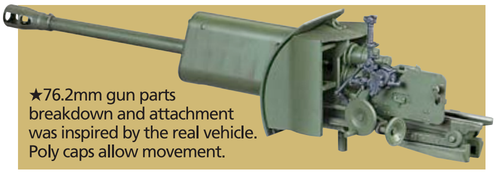
The SU-76M filled an important Soviet need for an effective self-propelled gun against invading German forces after the start of Operation Barbarossa in WWII. Based upon the T-70 light tank chassis, it was production-friendly and some 11,000 were manufactured between 1943 and 1945 – second only to the T-34. Deployed from the Battle of Kursk through to the Allied victory at the end of the conflict, its 76.2mm ZiS-3 gun helped it to play a valuable part offering supporting fire and as an anti-tank weapon. Superior mobility was its calling card, and the SU-76M was also able to operate in close unison with infantry units. Now, it joins the Tamiya 1/35 Military Miniature series–don't miss this opportunity to add a fascinating subject to your collection!

★Exhaustive surveys of a real SU-76M ensure the model accurately captures the open-top self-propelled gun form. ★Realistic assembly type tracks feature 1-piece straight sections and jig for construction. ★Comes with 2 marking options.



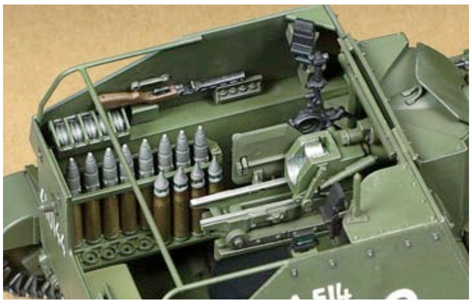
Loader
Commander
Gunner

★Contains 3 figures in authentic pose.



★76.2mm gun parts breakdown and attachment was inspired by the real vehicle. Poly caps allow movement.

★Detailed interior uses fuss-free assembly but shows great touch on gun breech and sights, shell racks, and so on.



★The SU-76M form with open top fighting compartment is breathtakingly captured.

RUSSIAN SELF-PROPELLED GUN SU-76M

## Selected 1/35 scale Russian subjects available from Tamiya

**Russian T34/76 Tank "ChTZ" Version 1943 Production** (Item 35149)

**Russian Heavy Tank JS-2 Model 1944 ChKZ** (Item 35289)

**Russian Army Assault Infantry** (Item 35207)

★Images show assembled and painted kit.
★Product may vary from images shown.

TAMIYA

TAMIYA,INC. 3-7 ONDAWARA,SURUGA-KU,
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